

WORSHIP SERVICE
April 11, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

Christ be with you.

And also with you!

* Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*Darkness has been vanquished and through the resurrection of Jesus,
the light of hope has come.*

Come let us worship and celebrate the good news.

Alleluia. Amen.

* Opening Song: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" *Lift Up Your Hearts #208*

A Hymn of Glory let us sing!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, by a road before untrod,

Ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band upon

the Mount of Olives Stands,

Alleluia! Alleluia! And with his faithful followers

See their lord ascend in majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O Lord, our homeward pathway bend

That our unwearied hearts ascend,

Alleluia! Alleluia! Where, seated on your Father's throne,

You reign as King of kings alone.

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,

All praise to you let earth accord:

Alleluia! Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run,

With Father and with Spirit one.

Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* Opening Prayer

Easter Reflection Medley

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we thank you for the powerful example set by your son,

Jesus Christ. In your mercy, hear our prayer.

We confess how difficult it is to truly love the people around us.

Forgive us and help us to care as deeply

for their well-being as for our own,

to delight in their good fortune without feeling envious.

Teach us to love one another.

Guide us away from the behaviors and attitudes of the world around us.

Renew and transform us with your grace.

God's Words of Assurance

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:3-21

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. **4** For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, **5** so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. **6** We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; **7** if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; **8** if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. **9** Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **10** Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. **11** Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. **12** Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. **13** Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. **14** Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **15** Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. **16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. **17** Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. **18** If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **19** Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. **20** On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Message: "Why Go To Church-A Place To Belong"

* Song of Response: "They'll Know We Are Christians" *Lift Up Your Hearts #256*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us all one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "My Friends May You Grow In Grace" *Lift Up Your Hearts #938*

My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

* Postlude

* Please stand if you are able

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Laura Hufford, Tara Tilstra