

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 5, 2021

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**Congregation: We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.**

L: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**C: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship God, and we rejoice!**

L: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**C: We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!**

L: Let us worship God.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*from Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell*

**God who Delivers and Redeems,**

**we have failed to live into the promise of new life.**

**We have been afraid to enter troubled waters**

**to help the poor and downtrodden.**

**We have been afraid to walk with those**

**burned by the system of sin and oppression.**

**We have sought ease and comfort**

**in exchange for ignoring the hungry and sick in our world.**

**Forgive us when we have seen our faith in such narrowness,**

**thinking of only our own salvation.**

**Forgive us when we have not lived for others,**

**when we have not been willing to risk ourselves for the sake of others.**

**Call us into new life,**

**a life that is lived in the promise of Your love for the whole world.**

**In Jesus' name we pray.**

*We reflect in silence on the ways we have fallen short.*

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the darkness, light shines. In the midst of troubled waters, a hand reaches out. We are not alone on

this journey of faith. When we seek God, we shall find God. God forgives, renews, and restores—  
let us go forth and do the work of God.

**Amen.**

*We encourage you to quietly reflect with joy on God's mercy as the music plays.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING***Revelation 21:1-7*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC****SECOND READING***Isaiah 43:16-21*

Thus says the LORD,

who makes a way in the sea,

a path in the mighty waters,

who brings out chariot and horse,

army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,

they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things,

or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me,

the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## **MESSAGE**

Rev. Ben Shaw

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles'*

### *Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **INVITATION TO TABLE**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Praise to you, O God...we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God...great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God...now and forever. Amen.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*As you are able, please wait to consume the bread and juice, that we might partake together.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

*Per COVID-19 safety measures, we will not pass the offering plate for some time. As you feel called, you may leave your offering in the plate in the Gathering Room or donate online at [MPChurch.net](http://MPChurch.net).*

### **DOXOLOGY**

*In place of singing aloud, we encourage you to ponder God's blessings in your life as the music plays.*

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **HYMN**

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

**744**

### **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

### **POSTLUDE**