

Gospel Reading John 14:31-35

Sermon Rev. Jacqueline Pinkowski

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve...In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of the peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace...In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for a new heaven and a new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Offering

Prayer, Offertory Music

Response *Glory Be to the Father*
#577

Notes

Sharing of Joys and Concerns Prayers of the People

God of compassion, hear our prayers for the world you love... (moment of silence)

Eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Going Into the World

+Hymn *Rejoice, the Lord is King!*
#155

+Charge and Benediction
+Postlude



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church
May 26, 2019 Sixth Sunday of Easter
+Stand as you are able
Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome

+Call to Worship/ Opening

Prayer

L: God calls us to this place, a haven for healing and hope.

P: We come, with the pain of our burdens, we come to hear God's Word of hope for us.

L: Together, we will sing songs of joy; each of us will hear God whisper our name, 'Beloved of my heart.'

P: We join our voices in prayer and praise; we sing of our longing for new lives.

L: Here, our shadowed corners are filled with Light; here we discover that God dwells in us.

P: And not just us, for God would teach all to love; God's Spirit would lead all peoples in peace.

Let us pray: Lord God the Almighty, you bless us with all that you have created: you teach us to swim in the bright crystal water of life; you cook breakfast for us in that eternal city; you open your heart to us and will

never close its door. We worship you. Jesus Christ, Lamb of God: you stand at the door, your hand on the knob, your coat over your arm, ready to go away. Yet you do not leave us trouble-hearted, but fill our emptiness with your peace. We praise you. Holy Spirit, God-sent Gift: you come to our defense when we are falsely accused; you rescue us from the school yard bully who always picks on us; you sit by our beds and comfort us when the nightmares of life keep us awake. We open our hearts to you. God in Community, Holy in One, we sing for joy to you, even as we pray with all people as Jesus taught us, saying. ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.***

+Hymn *Good Christians All, Rejoice & Sing* #111

Call to Confession

How easy we can learn of God's love - but how hard it is to live it! The world distracts us with its easy choices, while we know how intentional we must be to love one another. Join me as we confess our failures to love and we open our hearts to God, saying:

Prayer of Confession

Because you dwell in our hearts, Eternal God, you know how the anger, the pain, the bitterness of our lives tries to crowd you out. The noise of the world deafens us to that Word which can heal us. We want our children to be good, kind, and gentle to others, and then they hear us call others names, and speak of them with demeaning words. Our desire for revenge towards those who have hurt us shows that your peace, indeed, is not in us.

You promise a new heaven and a new earth, so create new spirits and new lives within us, Healing God. Shattered by our sin, your heart can still heal our brokenness. Your Spirit, living deep within our souls, can teach us faithful ways. Your Word, Jesus Christ our Lord, whispers to us of your mercy, your hope, your love. (moment of silence.)

L: The Word which can transform us is not some idle gossip, but good news for us. It fills us with forgiveness, equips us for service, and sends us forth to love

How does loving others reveal our faith in Christ?

What was the meaning of Peter's vision in Acts 11?

others as God loves us.

P: In our midst, the Holy Spirit teaches us all we need to know, gives us what we need in order to be faithful, and fills us with peace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks (refrain only)* #106

+Passing of the Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

Anthem

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Open us to the wonder of your word, God of wisdom, that we may learn and grow in knowledge of you and your desire for ourselves and our world. Amen.

First Reading Acts 16:9-15

Hymn *We Are Your People* #436