

**NEW! Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#**



**COF Worship, Sunday May 17, 10:30 am**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

### **Opening Music**

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

### **Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach**

L: O sing to the Lord a new song;

**P: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

L: Sing and give praise to God's name;

**P: Tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 54). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Let us pray: **O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 336). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Let us now join together in the prayer that Christ taught: ***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.*** Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 332). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**Song: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

*Praise ye the Lord, the almighty the king of creation*

*Oh my soul praise him for he is thy health and salvation*

*All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near*

*Join me in glad adoration!*

*Praise ye the Lord, who o're all things so wondrously reigneth*

*Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth*

*Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been*

*Granted in what he ordaineth.*

*Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!*

*All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!*

*Let the amen sound from his people again*

*Gladly for aye we adore him!*

### 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

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. (moment of silence.)**

As God hears our confessions,  
may we hear God say in return:

*I forgive you,  
I love you always,  
And I am with you.*

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

### Response of Praise

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. (2x)*

### Special Music

#### Prayer for Illumination

*Listen to the Word  
Listen to the word that God has spoken  
Listen to the one who is close at hand  
Listen to the voice that began creation  
Listen even if you don't understand*

**Scripture I Peter 3:13-22** <sup>13</sup>Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;

<sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited

patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

<sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**Hymn** *Blessed Assurance*  
*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!*  
*Oh what a foretaste of glory divine*  
*Heir of salvation, purchase of God*  
*Born of his spirit, washed in his blood*

*Refrain*  
*This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long*  
*This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight*  
*Visions of rapture now burst on my sight*  
*Angels descending bring from above*  
*Echoes of mercy, whispers of love*

*Refrain*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest*  
*I in my savior am happy and blest*  
*Watching and waiting, looking above*  
*Filled with his goodness, lost in his love*

*Refrain*

**Scripture** **John 14:15-21** <sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith—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.

### **Offering**

**Joys and Concerns**—*please type into the comments box on the lower right hand sign of the screen, or speak them out loud if you're on the conference call.*

### **Song: Christ Beside Me**

*Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, king of my heart  
Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me, never to part.*

*Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ around me, shield in the strife,  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, light of my life.*

*Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, king of my heart,  
Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me, never to part.*

### **Charge and Benediction**