

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2017

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of the Church Bell

Prelude *Pastorale* Domenico Zipoli

Welcome

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Call to Worship

One: Today our journey continues on to new adventures.

All: Let the sound of praise ring out.

One: Come and hear what the Lord has done.

All: The Lord who has made everything good is our God!

***Hymn** *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* #624

***Call to Confession**

Brother and sisters, God not only asks us to repent, but also assures us of forgiveness. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the one who is steadfast love.

***Confession of Sin (unison)**

**Loving God, we do not always keep your commandments;
we fail to love you; our conscience is not clear.**

**Wash us in the water of life that we may live again through the grace and
mercy of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.**

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Sisters and brothers, God forgives, restores, and strengthens us through the risen Christ. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

***Gloria Patri** # 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

Tune: Gloria Patri, Henry W. Greatorex, 1851, Public Domain

~Hearing God's Word~

Heifer Project - Recognition of Birthdays and Anniversaries

A Song of Blessing

**All: May joy and peace surround you, contentment at your door,
And happiness be with you now, God bless you evermore.**

(Adapted from An Irish Blessing, Tune: Amazing Grace)

Prayer for Illumination

Come Holy Spirit, our helper and advocate: Open our hearts and minds this day, entice us with your presence. Spark us with a word of life—a message that we may share with others as we seek to live Christ's love in the world. All this we ask in the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us. Amen.

First Reading Acts 17:22-31 page 137

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Psalm 66:8-20 page 528

One: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle 1 Peter 3:13-22 page 234

One: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Gospel John 14:15-21 page 109

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Message *Practicing Our Faith: Living, Moving, Being* Rev. Terry Epling

***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

**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 Apostles Creed].

***Hymn** *More Love to Thee, O Christ* #828

~Responding to God's Word~

Invitation to Give

God, the divine giver, gifts us with life and breath and all that is. In gratitude, let us offer our gifts in return for the goodness and grace of God in Christ.

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.

Offertory

Meditation in A-flat

Cesar Franck

*Doxology

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Amen.*

#606

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

O loving God, we give you thanks that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commands. Bless these gifts and use them to reveal to all tribes, nations, and peoples your love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Life in Our Church Community

Honoring the graduation of Emily Harris

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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.

* Closing Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West

#318

*Charge and Benediction

Sisters and brothers, God has heard you and given heed to your prayers. Therefore, go in peace to serve Christ, and always be eager to do what is good. May God, who creates, redeems, and sustains, keep you steadfast in faith, buoyant in hope, and abounding in love. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

*Postlude

Andante

Josef Rheinberger

*Please stand, if you are able.

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.

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