First Presbyterian Church of Rolla Worship Service for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

Pre-Service Music: On Jordan's Stormy Banks - Lindell Leatherman

Welcome and Announcements

We will be collecting the Pentecost Offering on May 28, Pentecost Sunday. This is one of the Presbyterian Special Offerings. This donation goes to Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries with Youth, and children at-risk. 40% stays with our congregation to support local ministries. This year we will be donating to G.R.A.C.E. for Kids.

Prelude: *Kneeling at the Altar* - Sabrina Brem

Introit #645: Sing Praise to God vs. 1

Call to Worship

Our God gathers us here.

We have been tested, we have suffered, but God has brought us through.

Come, let us tell of what God has done for us!

We cried aloud to God, and God listened and answered.

Therefore, we will praise God with shouts of joy!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn #2: Come Thou Almighty King vs. 1, 2, 3, 4 (please stand)

Call to Confession

God does not reject our prayers.

God does not withdraw love from us.

Even when we fail to love others and struggle to love ourselves,

God's love is steadfast.

Let us lift our prayers to God.

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace.

Declaration of Pardon

Because Christ lives, we also live. Not because of anything we have done, not because of our belief or faithfulness: we live because Christ lives.

This is the Christ who forgives us. This is the God who is in us. This is the Spirit who is with us. Alleluia! Praise be to God!

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory Be to the Father #581:

(please stand)

Anthem:

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers. Hear us O God. Your mercy is great.

United in the hope and joy of resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send our Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love.

Hear us O God. Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who taught us to pray:

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 #282: Come Down, O Love Divine v. 1, 3 (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Reading: Acts 17:22 - 31

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 3: 13 - 22

Gospel Lesson: John 14:15 - 21

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Everything We Need Jonathan Kimball

Affirmation of Faith 1 Corinthians 15 and Revelation 22:13

This is the Good News we have received, in which we stand and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that HE was buried, and that HE was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, that he appeared to the women, to Cephas and then to the twelve. Then he appeared to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

(please stand)

Offering #708: We Give Thee but Thine Own v. 1 and 2

Prayer of Dedication:

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel, through Christ Jesus, our risen Savior and wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

Sending Hymn #366: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. He is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

Go in peace. Live in love. Serve the Lord

Postlude: Go Ye Into All the World - John Turner

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Luke Gutches and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.

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