



# Order of Worship

April 29th, 2018



## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*This liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams  
and was celebrated in St. Gallen, Switzerland at  
All Souls Protestant Church which is now dissolved.*

# LITURGY

*April 29, 2018*

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

**“Lord, Listen To Your Children”**

*words and music by Ken Medema, 1973*

Lord, listen to Your children praying,  
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying,  
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

## WELCOME

### † PRAYER OF APPROACH

Leader: We gather in the name of the Father!

*People: Who gives us faith and hope with love!*

Leader: And we gather in the name of the Son!

*People: Who gives us strength and peace with power!*

Leader: We gather in the name of the Spirit!

*People: Who gives us light and truth with grace!*

Leader: And we gather here to offer up....

*People: Our lives, our gifts, our voices, and hearts!*

**ALL: O Father, receive our prayers!**

**O Son, receive our songs!**

**O Spirit, receive our joy!**

**O Mighty God, receive our praise!**

**In Your name we pray! Amen!**

## † SONG OF APPROACH

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

*words by William Dexheimer-Pharris, 1999; and music by Mark Sedio, 1999*

[CHORUS]

Take my life, that I may be  
 Consecrated, Lord to Thee.  
 Take my moments and my days;  
 Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move  
 At the impulse of Thy love  
 Take my feet and let them be  
 Swift and beautiful for Thee.

[CHORUS]

Take my silver and my gold  
 Not a mite would I withhold;  
 Take my intellect and use  
 Every power as Thou shalt choose.

[CHORUS]

Take my voice and let me sing  
 Always, only for my King;  
 Take my lips and let them be  
 Filled with messages from Thee.

[CHORUS]

Take my will and make it Thine  
 It shall be no longer mine;  
 Take my heart, it is Thine own;  
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

[CHORUS]

## WELCOME

## † PRAYER OF ADORATION / THE LORD'S PRAYER

*The people join hands*

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 trespasses,  
 As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
 For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
 Forever and ever. Amen.

† SONG OF ADORATION      “All Hail The Power Of Jesus’ Name”

*words by Edward Perronet, 1780; music by Oliver Holden, 1793 (Indelible Grace)*

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,

Ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe

On this terrestrial ball

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all.

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng

We at His feet may fall

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown Him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown Him Lord of all.

† CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: Before you, O Christ, we admit how and why we have sinned or missed the mark in following You. We have let our words and silence bring harm, and we have abused the trust and confidence of others. Lord, have mercy;

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: We admit, O Christ, how and where we have made a show of our religion, and used our faith to draw attention to us, while drawing eyes away from You. Lord, have mercy;

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: We admit, O Christ, where in our lives a vague interest has become a dangerous passion, and we are not sure of what to do or whether we are still in control. And now, O Lord, we pause for a moment of silence to reflect on the ways that we have hurt You, others, and ourselves.

(Confess in Silence)

Lord, have mercy;

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ, if we have looked or longed for an easier Gospel, a lighter cross, or a less demanding Savior, then turn our eyes and avert our longing from what we choose to You Who have chosen us. Give us not the remedies we desire for tomorrow, but the grace that You offer us today. We ask all this for Your love's sake.

**ALL: Amen.**

† SONG OF CONFESSION

“Lord, Listen To Your Children”

*words and music by Ken Medema, 1973*

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

## † CONFESSION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The God of love, power, and grace has forgiven us and freed us from our sins. He has healed and strengthened us by His Spirit, and raised us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, in light of these amazing gifts, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of our sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous!**  
**Thanks be to God!**

## † CONFESSION OF FAITH

### Apostles Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith together saying:

**ALL: 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 Spirit,  
 Born of the Virgin Mary,  
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 Was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 He descended to the dead;  
 On the third day He rose again;  
 He ascended into heaven,  
 And He is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic Church,  
 The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
 Amen.**

\* The word *catholic* means “universal” or “for all people” (not the Roman Catholic Church).

## † PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor: Friends, the peace of the Lord be with you!

*People: And also with you!*

Pastor: Please take this time to offer the peace of Christ to those around you.

## † SONG OF PEACE

### “Heal Us Emmanuel”

*words by William Cowper, 1779; music by Kevin Twit, 2015 (Indelible Grace)*

[CHORUS–ALL]: **Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are**

**We long to feel Thy touch**

**Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly**

**O Savior hear our cry**

Cantor: Our faith is feeble, we confess. We faintly trust Thy Word.  
 But will You pity us the less?  
 Be that far from You Lord!

[CHORUS–ALL]

Cantor: Remember him who once applied, with trembling for relief  
 “Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried,  
 “O help my unbelief!”

[CHORUS–ALL]

Cantor: She, too, who touched You in the press, and healing virtue stole  
 Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace.  
 Thy faith has made thee whole.”

[CHORUS–ALL]

Cantor: Like her, with hopes and fears we come, to touch You if we may  
 O send us not despairing home  
 Send none unhealed away.

[CHORUS–ALL]

## † GOSPEL READING

John 15:1-8 (ESV)

*The Vine and the Branches*

Lector: Children of God and friends of Christ, hear these words from the Gospel of John:

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to His Disciples, “I am the true Vine, and My Father is the Gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the Word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in Me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.

<sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in Me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.

Lector: This is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

*People: Thanks be to God!*

## † ACTS READING

Acts 8:26-31;34-38 (ESV)

*Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch*

Pastor: And now friends, a reading from the book of Acts.  
Listen and hear the Word of God:

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

<sup>30</sup> So Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. <sup>31</sup> “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>34</sup> Then the eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the Good News about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> And as they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” <sup>[37]</sup> <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

Pastor: This too is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

*People: Thanks be to God!*

## WORSHIP IN GIVING

If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give, but if you choose to give we thank you and pray that you are blessed.

† DOXOLOGY *words by Thomas Ken, 1674; music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551*

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise \*him, all crea-tures  
here be-low; praise \*him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise  
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

† INVITATION TO THANKSGIVING (Eucharist)

Pastor: In the ancient Church a greeting was given at the breaking of bread, and like those before us I greet you with the joy of God. Friends, the Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

*People: We lift them up to the Lord.*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

Pastor: Let us pray...It is our duty and delight that we should  
(Chant) everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to You, O God, through Jesus Christ, Who calls us to follow His way of humble service and love. And so with the Church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn....

† SANCTUS *words by Reginald Heber, 1826; music by John B. Dykes 1861*

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Lord God Al-might-y!  
All, Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Mer-ci-ful and Might-y!  
God in three Per-sons bless-ed Trin-i-ty.

## † WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INSTRUCTION

Pastor: On the night He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take this and eat of it; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me until I come again.”

And in the same way, after supper, He also took the cup, and said, “Take this and drink of it; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.”

Gracious Father, we thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Christ, Who gave His life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send down Your Holy Spirit upon these Your gifts of bread and wine that they might be for us His body and His blood. Amen.

Friends, in the breaking of His body, Christ received our brokenness and gave us the blessings of heaven. Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith in Him.

**ALL: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Pastor: Behold the gifts of God for you, the people of God. Let us keep the feast!

## DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all baptized Christians and those who wish to follow Jesus to come to the Table and receive Communion. We take the elements by *intinction* or dipping the bread into the cup, so once you receive the bread please hold on to it that you might dip it into the cup. To ensure that all can partake our bread is gluten-free, and we use grape juice.

## † SONG OF THANKSGIVING

“Amazing Grace”

*words by John Newton, 1779; music by Anonymous, 1829 (Indelible Grace)*

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now I'm found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear.  
And grace, my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come.  
T'is grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun.  
We've no less days to sing God's praise,  
Than when we first begun.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, as we prepare to leave this place of rest, and go back into a restless world, let us to the Lord pray with all our hearts, souls, and minds saying;

*People: Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord;

*People: Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: For the peace of the world, for the freedom of the oppressed, for the wisdom of all rulers, for the unity of all people, for those who are suffering and feel exiled from others, and for those in need of hope (from the people of Israel and Palestine who are longing for works of peace, to the people of Toronto, Canada who are mourning the works of death), let us pray to the Lord;

*People: Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: For the peace of the Church and the unity of all believers. For the unity of Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox Christians, and those without denominations. And for the unity and ministry of our brothers and sisters at *St. Andrew's United Church* in Cairo, Egypt, let us pray to the Lord;

*People: Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: For the peace of Switzerland and all who live here, for the Bundesrat and leaders of St. Gallen, and for the Kirchenbund and our Synode, let us pray to the Lord;

*People: Lord have mercy.*

Pastor: And for the life we are called to live. May we walk in faith, hope, love, power, and grace until we see our Savior in world without end, let us pray to the Lord;

*People: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious Father, as a parent gives hope to a troubled child, You have given us hope through Jesus Christ. Thank You for feeding us at His Table, giving us Your Holy Word to show us Your perfect will, and watching over us with eyes of love.

Father accept our prayers, give us the grace to accept Your answers, even when Your answers disappoint us, and let us always find joy in Your Son, Who is our Blessed Assurance. We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, both now and forever. Amen.

## + SONG OF SENDING

## “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”

*words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1873; music by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873*

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a  
 2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of  
 3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest, I in my

fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of  
 rap-ture now burst on my sight: an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-  
 Sav-ior am hap-py and blest: watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-

God, born of His Spir-it, washed in His blood.  
 bove, ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 bove, filled with His good-ness, lost in His love.

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long;

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.



## † BENEDICTION

## Irish Blessing

Pastor: May the road rise to meet you,  
 May the wind be always at your back,  
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
 May the sweet and fragrant rain of God's blessing fall  
 soft upon your lives,  
 And until we meet again, brothers and sisters, family  
 and friends in Christ  
 May Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 hold you in the hollow of His hand.

## † CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

## Threefold (Danish) Amen

A - men. A - men. A - men.