

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

May 21, 2006

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

“Dance of the Morning Star”
Jubilate Ringers

Hart Morris

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from *Psalms* 98)

O sing a new song to the Lord our God,
a song resounding to the ends of the earth!

A song of birth and gladness;

A song of life and peace!

A song of love and victory;

A song of faith and power!

O let your voices roar with the seas!

Clap hands with the floods and shout with the hills!

For our blinded eyes are opened,

and our deafened ears unstopped;

Our cripple feet are leaping,

and our muted tongues have found their song!

The Prayer of Adoration

O God of new days and new songs, of holy victory and wondrous triumph, Who governs the heavens' heights and depths, and rules to the ends of the earth, hear our victory shouts! Hallelujah, Sovereign and faithful Creator! Hallelujah, blessed and resurrected Redeemer! Hallelujah, Spirit of power and steadfast love! Praise to You, One God, for ever. Amen.

*The Hymn 464

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

The Prayer of Confession

We are people of little faith, faithful God, who treat Your love as a burden. We run away from Your commandments. We have not loved You with all our hearts. Neither do we find it in our hearts to love one another. Because we love little, our strength to face our troubles is small. We are troubled and troublesome people. We prefer our burdens to obeying You and loving one another. Forgive us in the merciful name of Jesus. . .(time for silent confession). . .

The Choral Response

The Assurance of Pardon

The victory that overcomes the world is our faith:

Our faith is in Jesus Christ.

Jesus declared God's love for us;

That His joy might be in us and our joy might be complete.

We believe the Good News of the Gospel:

In Christ, we are forgiven, Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.
Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *New Testament* Lesson: *Acts 10:44-48* p. 158 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 98* p. 678 in the pew Bible

The Anthem “*When In Our Music God is Glorified*” Harriet Ziegenhals, arr.

The *Epistle* Lesson: *1 John 5:1-6* p. 293 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 438 (11:00 am) “*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*”

The *Sacrament of Baptism* (8:30 am)

*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Baptism

The Welcome

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church
to share with us in His ministry for we are all one in Christ.**

*The Hymn 499 “*Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed*”

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 15:9-17* p. 134 in the pew Bible

The Sermon “*So Hard to Do*”
Glynn S. Bell

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed* (11:00 am) p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Offertory

*The Doxology Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

Prayer of Dedication

O God, as the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard your word, so fill us as we come before you in response to Christ's gift of love. By your Spirit, enable us to bear fruit and overcome the world with our faith. Accept our gifts as the first signs of a bountiful harvest, and our commitment to labor on behalf of all your children. Through our work, may they be led to believe in your word.

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 403 “*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*”

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude