

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## The Second Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2007

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from *Psalm 118* and *150*)

God is our strength and our salvation;  
let everything that breathes praise our God!

**This is the day that God has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

Praise God for mighty deeds and extravagant love.

Praise God for loving care and answered prayer.

**We will give thanks this day, for God is good.**

**The steadfast love of God endures forever.**

Grace to you and peace from the one who is  
and who was and who is to come.

**We are witnesses to the God who acts.**

**We are here to offer our worship and praise.**

The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Hymn 119

*"The Strife Is O'er"*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**O God, your love is boundless and your grace exceeds our imaginations. You keep finding ways to be among us, even when our hearts are hidden, even when the doors of our souls are locked. You seek us out. We cannot hide, but we can confess that sin has us in its grip. It has led us from your ways, and corrupted our best intentions, making us believe that you don't notice, that you aren't even present. Correct our vision. Cleanse our hearts. Forgive us in your mercy. . . (time for silent confession). . .**

\*The Choral Response

\*Assurance of Pardon

We are loved. We are forgiven,  
freed from our sins by the sacrifice of Christ Jesus.  
**New life is ours. Let us recount the deeds of our God  
and respond to the Holy Spirit with joy and thanksgiving.**  
The steadfast love of God endures forever.  
**Fill the sanctuary with joyous praise!  
Thanks be to God! 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 5:27-32*

p. 149 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 118:14-29*

p. 695 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

*"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring!"*

Drummond Wolf

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Revelation 1:4-8*

p. 297 in the pew Bible

A Moment with the Children

The Hymn 142

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"*

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 20:19-31*

p. 141 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

*"Now What?"*

*Allen H. Fisher, Jr.*

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

\*The *Litany of Affirmation*

(from *Acts 5* and *Rev. 1*)

We must obey God rather than human authority.

**To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

The God of our fathers and mothers raised Jesus, who was killed by hanging on a tree.

**To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

God exalted him at God's right hand as Leader and Savior.

**To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

Christ brings repentance and forgiveness of sins.

**To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

And we are witnesses to these things,

and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey.

**To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

\*The Doxology and Prayer of DedicationDoxology p. 592 in the Hymnal

**O God, who sent Jesus, making the nations his heritage, the ends of the earth his possession, all that we have is a gift of your love. Our wealth is measured by the mercy you have shown us; even life itself is due to your grace. Entrusted by Jesus as stewards of your dominion, we come before you with the fruits of our labor. Accept them as signs of our gratefulness and use them to further your rule over all creation. In the name of our risen Lord we pray. Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME.

\*The Hymn 118

*"The Day of Resurrection!"*

\*The Charge and Benediction

\*The Postlude