

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

April 10, 2005

The Third 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

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

I love the Lord,
because God has heard my voice and my supplications.
**Because you inclined your ear to me,
therefore I will call on you as long as I live.**
For you have delivered me from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
I walk before the Lord in the land of the living!
I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted."
What shall I return to the Lord for all God's bounty to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all the people.

The Prayer of Adoration

We come before you, O God, in Easter joy, seeking to be a people of the resurrection. Be known among us; grant us the assurance of your presence, your love, and your renewing power. Through your Word and Spirit, reveal to us your purpose in our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The Hymn 115

"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

*The Prayer of Confession

Almighty and Eternal God, forgive us our indifference to the good news of your love. We close our eyes to the hurts of the world and yet you call us to recognize you in the life of each other. Each day we have opportunity to give witness to your great love, and yet we make excuses that we don't have time. We are sidetracked from doing your will by distractions of our everyday world. Forgive us our nearsightedness, our apathy and our lack of courage to do your will. . . (time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

*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 *Old Testament* Lesson: *Acts 2:14a,36-41*

p. 948 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19*

p. 530 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

“Stay with Us”

Egil Houland

The *Epistle* Lesson: *1 Peter 1:17-23*

p.1058 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

Reception of Confirmands (11:00 am)

Presentation and Questions of Membership

*The *Apostles' Creed*

p. 14 in the Hymnal

Prayer

Eternal God, the one true Parent of all: we praise you for calling us to be the church, Christ's body on earth. We thank you for charging us to be a servant people and for choosing to add to our number these sisters and brothers in faith. We bless you for their baptisms, and for the nurture and support of their parents, families and congregations. Thank you for their journeys of faith -- their talents, gifts and abilities given to glorify you with all your saints of every time and place. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Charge and Blessing

*The Hymn 492

“Baptized in Water”

The *Gospel* Lesson: *Luke 24:13-35*

p. 919 in the pew Bible

The Sermon

“From Encounter to Relationship”

Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

AND TO MAKE PROPER RESPONSE. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed* (8:30 am)

p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

We bring our gifts to you in response to good news. Christ is risen indeed and abides in us still. May all that we do be in response to new life. As you accept who we are, O God, receive what we offer, and transform all of our being to conform with your will. Extend your grace through us so that others hear of the salvation you bring through Christ our Risen Savior. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 121

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude