

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

PRELUDES

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb
Scherzo on Nettleton

Barbara B. Masters
Marsha Medley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

CHORAL INTROIT #283 (Projected)

Come, O Holy Spirit, Come
(English)

Wa Emimimo

Come, O Holy Spirit, come; Come, almighty Spirit, come;
Come, come, come.

(Yoruba)

Wa wa wa Emimimo; Wa wa wa Alagbara; Wa - o, wa - o, wa - o.
(English)

Come, O Holy Spirit, come; Come, almighty Spirit, come;
Come, come, come.

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RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

All: For we are the church of Jesus Christ!

One: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

All: Opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

***OPENING SONG #2128 (Projected)**

Come and Find the Quiet Center
(verse 1)

Beach Spring

***Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room
for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos
and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see all the things that really
matter, be at peace, and simply be.***

(verse 2)

***Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God
it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making
space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising
courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.***

(verse 3)

***In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and
fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: There's a place for deepest
dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare.***

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We, also, remember that we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy, or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God's goodness to forgive us and create us anew:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of those things that separate us from you. We prize success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the earthly things and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

One: Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #447** *We Are Forgiven*

We Are Forgiven

***We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.***

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (adapted from Philippians 3)**

One: All that we seek to accomplish, all that we strive to achieve, all that we claim to possess – all this amounts to nothing without the grace of Christ. May his peace be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.

READING (Projected) *"Cory and the Seventh Story"*

CHORAL ANTHEM

Only God

McDonald

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Acts 4:32-35*

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon

*Please stand as you are able.

them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

SERMON

"The Church: Sharing with Others" Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Belhar Confession)

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ. We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another. We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Intermezzo

Franklin Ritter

PRAYER OF DEDICATION / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***SENDING SONG (Known Unknowns) (Projected)**

Praise to the Lord for the Joys of the Earth

(verse 1)

Slane; Irish Melody

Praise to the Lord for the joys of the earth: cycles of season and reason and birth, contrasts in landscape and outlook and need, challenge of famine, pollution, and agreed.

(verse 3)

Praise to the Lord for his care of our kind: faith for the faithless and sight for the blind, healing, acceptance, disturbance, and change, all the emotions through which our lives range.

(verse 4)

Praise to the Lord for the people we meet safe in our homes or at risk in the street; kiss of a lover and friendship's embrace, smile of a stranger and words full of grace.

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*Please stand as you are able.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

Go Now in Peace

Besig

POSTLUDE *Rigaudon on "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies"*

Dennis Janzer

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers

The flowers today are given by Carl, Paul, and Iva Unterweiser in memory of Gloria Unterweiser, a long-time member of VPC who went to be with the Lord 10-years ago on April 24, 2014.

Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group. We will be knitting special items like prayer shawls, blankets, and other helpful and comforting items for our members and people in our community.

The group will meet (come when your schedule allows):

Sunday, May 5 — 12:15 - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14 — 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22 — 10:30 a.m. - noon

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl
502-553-7255

Bev Keough
330-888-5385

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



May is Cleaning Supply Giveaway month – toilet bowl cleaner, sponges, scrub brushes, paper towels, Windex, Murphy's Oil Soap, Mr. Clean/Lysol, Pinesol, Comet, etc. or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, May 17, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, May 18, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Greeters: Holly & Dale Cooper