

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHERED TO WORSHIP AS**  
**The Presbyterian Church of West Salem**  
**May 2, 2021                      5th Sunday of Easter                      10:15AM**

Our Covid-19 safety procedures will remain in place for the foreseeable future: wearing masks, social distancing, no coffee time, no nursery, register your attendance, communion with self serve sealed containers. The only real update is that we have rearranged the chairs in the sanctuary to make social distancing requirements more obvious and easier to observe. We have arranged the chairs in family groups of two, three, four, and a few at seven and eight. By doing this, we have also increased the seated capacity from about 70 to 120. Please try to sit in a group that matches your family size. We are not expecting to exceed our capacity any time soon, so we will not be setting up a reservation system. But we might exceed capacity as vaccinations increase.

The following guidelines will be followed to ensure a safe experience for In-person Worship:

- There will be live song leaders and special music. We ask that the worshippers sing along quietly.
- Offerings are to be dropped off in offering plates when leaving church
- Each family should sign a bulletin and leave on the table in the back of the sanctuary.
- **If choosing to socialize following the service, we ask that you please maintain social distance and continue to wear masks.**

**PRELUDE**  
**WELCOME**  
**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 22:25-31**

**LEADER:** From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**PEOPLE:** **The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let Those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

**LEADER:** All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God

**PEOPLE:** **For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

**LEADER:** Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**PEOPLE:** **Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come. They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"**

**LEADER:** Eternal God, your Son cried out in anguish from the cross, and you delivered him. Do not hide your face from those who cry out to you. By his death and resurrection bring life where there is death: feed the hungry, strengthen the weak, and break the chains of oppression, that all people may rejoice in your saving deeds through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

**PEOPLE:** **AMEN.**

**\* THE HYMN                      #482    "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"    Blue Presbyterian Hymnal**

### **\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**LEADER:** We are a people born of water and the Spirit. We have made promises to be Christ's faithful disciples, and to show his love to our life's end. Confident of God's grace, let us confess our sin and the sin of the world.

**PEOPLE:** **O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Let us greet one another as forgiven sinners with the peace of Christ.

"The peace of the Lord be with you". **And also, with you.**

### **A MOMENT WITH CHILDREN**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 8:26-40**

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Hear the word of the Lord... 26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) 27 So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." 30 So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" 38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But

Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Go and tell everyone what you have seen and heard. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

### **COMMUNION DRAMA**

### **HANDS ON THE TABLE**

by Patrick J. Wilson, Senior Pastor, Shades Valley Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama  
Erica Crusan, Jane Foner, Kristjian Sells, Chris Winther

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - APOSTLES CREED**

Let us affirm our faith... **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy church universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, GIFTS**

LEADER: The Lord prepares a table for us in the presence of our enemies; God anoints us with oil; our cups overflow. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

### **OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Let us pray...**Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's prayer (Debts/Debtors)

Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us...

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Sharing of the Cup

**\*HYMN #517 "We Come as Guests Invited" Blue Presbyterian Hymnal**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SONG OF SENDING #412 "Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds" (PH)**

Eternal God, whose power upholds Both flower and flaming star,  
To whom there is no here or there, No time, no near or far,  
No alien race, no foreign shore, No child unsought, unknown:

O send us forth, Thy prophets true, To make all lands Thine own!

PASTOR: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!

**\*THE POSTLUDE**

**THESE PERSONS HAVE ASSISTED IN OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP:**

**MUSICIANS:** Julie Baker, Greg Meeuwsen, Sara Oldenburg

**LITURGIST:** Avis Evenson

**SOUND ROOM:** Isaku Saito

**USHER:** Mike and Jackie Seikert

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
following Worship, Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**We have returned to In-Person Worship.** Live Stream Worship will continue.

**Join Pastor Linda for a time of preservice prayer.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4946520124>

**You can also call in on your phone, but of course you won't have video (the call-in number is below). If you haven't used Zoom before, please join early (by clicking the link) to get help with setup.**

Dial in by phone: +1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 494 652 0124

Passcode: 034067

Time: Sunday Mornings 9:30 am

**Rummage Sale:** It is time for our huge rummage sale! This year we are going to have sales on two weekends, May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please bring your clean rummage starting on May 9<sup>th</sup> after the worship service.

**Tithes & Offerings can be mailed to: PO BOX 861, West Salem, WI 54669** (Use PO Box NOT Street address)

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