

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHERED TO WORSHIP AS**  
**The Presbyterian Church of West Salem**  
**May 9, 2021                      6th 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 worshipers 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 - Hand bells                      Jubilant Fanfare                      by Kevin McChesney**

**WELCOME**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**MOMENT FOR MISSIONS                      *Children at Risk*                      Shayna Arndt**

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 98**

LEADER: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**PEOPLE: LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

LEADER: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**PEOPLE: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

LEADER: Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

**PEOPLE: With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

LEADER: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

**PEOPLE: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth. The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.**

LEADER: Lord God, we sing to you a new song, for your victory is ever new. In the resurrection of Christ, you have given us a glimpse of your future, and in your victory over death you have shown us how we shall overcome the last enemy. As the seas roar and the hills sing together, we too will praise you for your great triumph, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**\* THE HYMN      #264    When in Our Music God is Glorified (Blue Presbyterian Hymnal)**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

LEADER: The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**PEOPLE:** Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

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

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name 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 10:44-48**

Testimony for the church from Jesus, the Alpha and Omega. Hear the word of the Lord...

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days. Jesus said: I am the way, the truth, and the life. Believe in me. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

God of the Word, open our hearts and minds, and give us the courage to hear your Word as we read the words of Scripture today. By the power of your Spirit, illuminate our paths. Amen

## **SERMON**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

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

God has given us the gift of our lives and the resources for living. Most important of all, God's grace sustains us in life, death and everywhere in between. Let us celebrate God's life-giving presence by bring our gifts in joyful response to the many gifts that we have been given.

**OFFERTORY** "The Prayer" written by Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster.

**\*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...**O God, giver of all good gifts, these gifts are a symbol of our lives dedicated to you and your ministry in our midst. May we be ministers of your peace, love and justice in our community and our world.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\*HYMN #324 Open My Eyes that I May See (Blue Presbyterian Hymnal)**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SONG OF SENDING #412 Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds (Blue Presbyterian Hymnal)**

O God of Love, whose Spirit wakes In every human breast,  
Whom love, and love alone, can know, In whom all hearts find rest:  
Help us to spread Thy gracious reign Till greed and hate shall cease,  
And kindness dwell in human hearts, And all the earth find peace!

**PASTOR:** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

**PEOPLE:** **Thanks be to God!**

**\*THE POSTLUDE**

*\* All who are able are invited to stand*

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

**MUSICIANS:** Julie Baker, Greg Meeuwsen, Sara Oldenburg, Handbell Choir, Nick Miller

**LITURGIST:** Barb Hopkins

**SOUND ROOM:** Gideon / Josiah Wolbrink

**USHER:** Mike and Jackie Seikert

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**Join Pastor Linda for a time of morning prayer.** Monday through Thursday 7am

<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 sale items 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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