

The People of God Gathered to Worship As
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST SALEM

May 15, 2022
5th Sunday of Easter

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, our gifts are small next to all that you have given us. Take our gifts, LORD, and make them holy, so that they may help to feed the hungry, grow the church, and share your Light with a world lost in Darkness. Amen.

Prayers Of The People and 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.

Closing Hymn

#467 Presbyterian Hymnal
How Great Thou Art

Benediction

Song of Sending

#472 Presbyterian Hymnal (verse 1)
O Sing to the LORD

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Postlude

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Minute for Missions

Recognition of Graduating Seniors

The Call to Worship

LEADER: The LORD calls us to join each other in Worship.

PEOPLE: We do not choose to be here, instead our God chose us.

LEADER: The LORD calls others from other time and places.

PEOPLE: We did not choose them, instead they are chosen by God.

LEADER: Even those who are different, those who follow different paths

*PEOPLE: We follow God's Commands to welcome all, to greet all,
to love all.*

LEADER: So let us worship the God of all peoples!

PEOPLE: Let us worship the LORD!

Opening Hymn

#387 Presbyterian Hymnal
Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Prayer of Confession

Most Holy, Gracious, and Merciful God, we are a sinful people, living in a sinful world, during a sinful time. We have often struggled to do as you would have us do, and struggled with doing the things you would have us not do. We try to control who God loves, forgetting that we are the Saved, not the Savior. Forgive us our sins, O God, and hear us as we raise our silent confessions before you.

Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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 *(please remain in your seats)*

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

"May the Peace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with you!"
And also, with you."

A Moment with the Children – Can't Stop God!

Scripture Reading

Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

Who Was I To Hinder God

Pastor Dan McCurdy

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic church,
The communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

In the time of Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of our Risen Lord, and remember the incredible gift, the gift of LIFE, that the resurrection gave to us. We cannot buy that gift, it is already given. Instead, when we give, we do so in imitation of the great generosity of God. So let us joyfully worship God with our giving.

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.