

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S RISEN PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC *Pastorale* from the *Première Symphonie* Louis Vierne

WELCOME AND CENTERING SILENCE The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* **UNISON INTROIT** (Hymn 485, v.1)
*We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold.
And our despair he turns to blazing joy. Alleluia!*

* **OPENING SENTENCES** Tim Tavcar
May the grace and peace of the Risen Lord be with you all.
And also with you.
By God's mercy we are born anew into a living hope, through Christ's resurrection.
Blessed are those who have not seen but have come to believe.
Christ the Lord is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia. Amen.

* **HYMN 239** "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" GELOBT SEI GOTT

* **ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**
Beloved in Christ: God is with us!
We are not alone!
Let us pray.

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION
Loving God, for you there is no door that is locked, there is no room where we can hide. Because you know us as we are and love us still, we ask your forgiveness as we acknowledge our thoughts, words, and deeds that brought pain to ourselves, to others, and to the world you so love. Help us to forgive as we are forgiven and receive the peace of Christ that passes all understanding. Give us strength to overcome any desire to payback offense and pain with more of the same. Set us free to love and serve you and your good purposes above all else. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON I John 2:7-11 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.239)

ANTHEM *Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep* John Rutter
Mae Alice Harrell, soprano
Chancel Choir

Loving shepherd of thy sheep, keep thy lamb in safety keep. Nothing can thy power withstand. None can pluck me from thy hand. I would praise thee every day. Gladly all thy will obey. Like thy blessed ones above. Happy in thy perfect love. Loving shepherd, ever near. Teach thy lamb thy voice to hear. Suffer not my steps to stray. From the straight and narrow way. Where thou leadest I would go. Walking in thy steps below. Till before my Father's throne. I shall know as I am known.

* **GOSPEL LESSON** John 20:19-23 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.115)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SUNG BLESSING (Hymn 240, v. 2 and refrain)
*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

SERMON "Want to Live? Forgive" Dr. Butler
"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; but if you do not, they are retained..."

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

* **HYMN 444** "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" DETROIT

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.

NEWS OF OUR LIFE AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

Antiphon III

Marcel Dupré

*** DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 606)

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

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** HYMN 257**

“The Risen Christ”

WOODLANDS

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** DEPARTING MUSIC**

Sheep May Safely Graze BWV 208

Johann Sebastian Bach

Arr. Okumura

The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship, service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor
Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music
The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10 a.m.
