

## May 22, 2022

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

## GATHERING .... WORD .... MEAL ... SENDING

## SINGING BOWL

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

**PRELUDE** . . . Myrna Emata Diaz

WELCOME

Please Stand

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

*P:* May the peace of the risen Savior Jesus be with you all.All: And also with you.



## CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: God calls us to this place, a haven for healing and hope.
- All: We come, with the pain of our burdens, we come to hear God's Word of hope for us.
- L: Together, we will sing songs of joy; each of us will hear God whisper our name, 'Beloved of my heart.'
- All: We join our voices in prayer and praise; we sing of our longing for new lives.
- L: Here, our shadowed corners are filled with Light; here we discover that God dwells in us.
- All: And not just us, for God would teach all to love; God's Spirit would lead all peoples in peace.

# Peace Love JOY Peace Love JOY

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

- P: How easy we can learn of God's love but how hard it is to live it! The world distracts us with its easy choices, while we know how intentional we must be to love one another. Join me as we confess our failures to love and we open our hearts to God, saying,
- All: Because you dwell in our hearts, Eternal God, you know how the anger, the pain, the bitterness of our lives try to crowd you out. The noise of the world deafens us to that Word which can heal us.
- *P:* We want children to be good, kind, and gentle to others, and then they hear us call others names, and speak of them with demeaning words.
- All: Our desire for revenge towards those who have hurt us shows that your peace, indeed, is not in us.

- P: God, you promise a new heaven and a new earth, so create new spirits and new lives within us, Healing God. Shattered by our sin, your heart can still heal our brokenness.
- All: Your Spirit, living deep within our souls, can teach us faithful ways. Your Word, Jesus Christ, whispers to us of your mercy, your hope, your love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

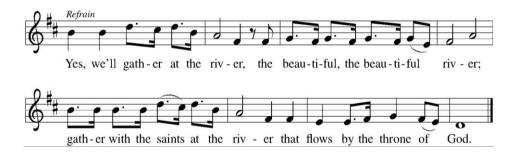
- P: The Word which can transform us is not some idle gossip, but good news for us. It fills us with forgiveness, equips us for service, and sends us forth to love others as God loves us.
- All: In our midst, the Holy Spirit teaches us all we need to know, gives us what we need in order to be faithful, and fills us with peace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

## GREETING

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**OPENING HYMN** . . . "Shall We Gather at the River" vs. 1,3

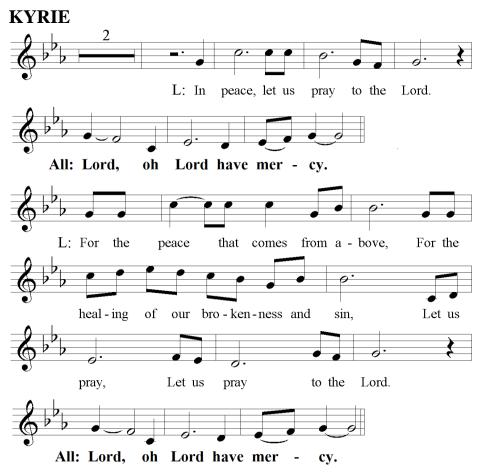




## INVOCATION

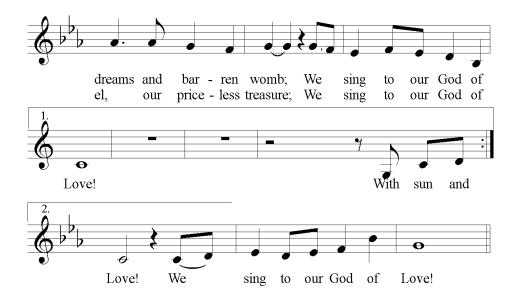
P: Worship Our Creator in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. The God who created the world and fills it with life is with you all.

All: And also with you.









## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L: Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life.
- All: Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Be Seated

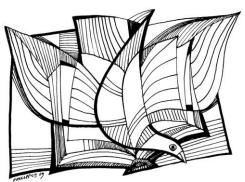
## GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

Reader: The first reading is from the book of Revelation, beginning with chapter twenty-one, the tenth verse.

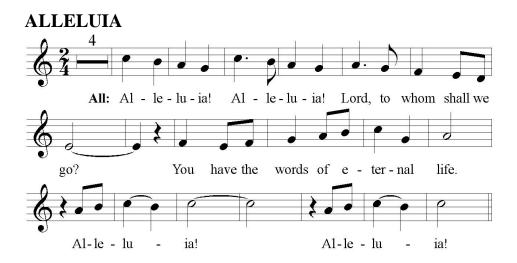
**FIRST READING** . . . *Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5* And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.
- All: Thanks be to God.



Please Stand



*P:* The holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.



#### **GOSPEL** . . . John 14:23-29

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot)],

"Those who love me will be true to my word, and Abba God will love them; and we will come to them and make our dwelling place with them. Those who don't love me don't keep my words. Yet the message you hear is not mine; it comes from Abba God who sent me.

"This much have I said to you while still with you; but the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit whom Abba God will send in my name, will instruct you in everything and she will remind you of all I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; but the kind of peace I give you is not like the world's peace. Don't let your hearts be distressed; don't be fearful. You've heard me say, 'I am going away but I will return.' If you really loved me, you would rejoice because I am going to Abba God, for Abba is greater than I. I tell you this now, before it happens, so that when it happens you will believe."

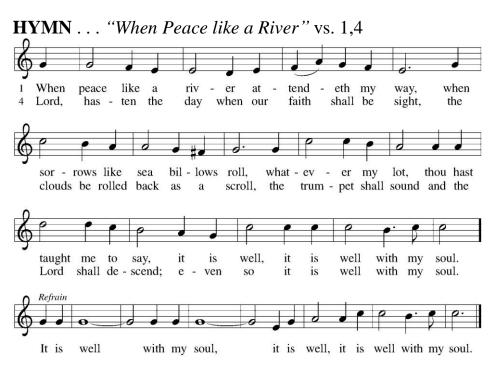
P: The Gospel of our Living God.



Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME ... Pastor Tim

Please Stand



Be Seated

## MESSAGE . . . Pastor Tim

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

- L: God is our chosen portion, the cup of our salvation, the bread of life.
- All: Let us share our gratitude for God's gift of everlasting presence as we share a portion of God's many abundant gifts with a world in need of the Easter miracle.

## THANKFUL OFFERING



## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- L: Creator and almighty God, wherever we find ourselves, the bounty of your peace meets us there.
- All: We bring these gifts to you in order to share our bounty, as you have shared yours with us.
- L: May those who need these gifts find your presence, even as they receive what they need.
- All: May their paths of faith be lit with your light, as ours have been. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,
- All: hear our prayer.
- L: Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,
- All: hear our prayer.
- L: Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace. Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,
- All: hear our prayer.
- L: Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,
- All: hear our prayer.

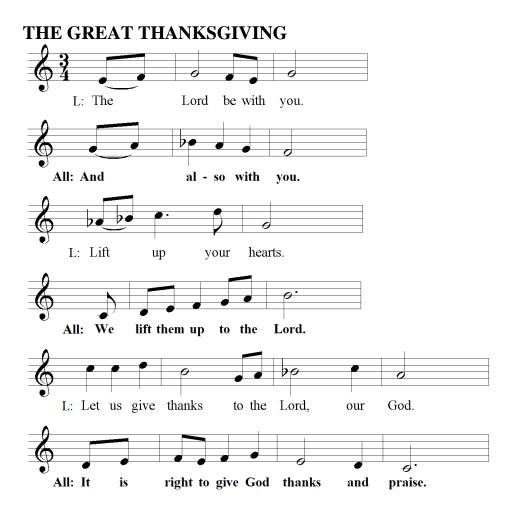
L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God, in your mercy,

## All: hear our prayers.

- L: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- All: Amen.



- *P*: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saving: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saving: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
- All: Through Christ all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

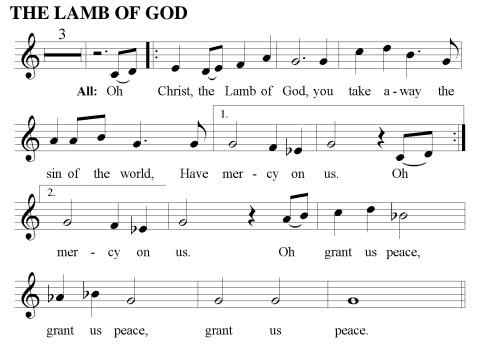
- *P:* Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or translation which is most familiar to each of us.
- All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- *P:* The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.
- All: We come to the table of the risen Christ where we are known and loved.

Be Seated

The ushers will invite you to the Lord's Table after the Lamb of God is sung.



## DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion is open to all.

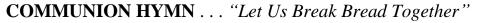
If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

#### For communion at the altar rail:

You may come up the center aisle to the altar rail as space allows, stand or kneel, and hold out your hand for the pastor to dop the wafer into. Then take a cup of grape juice from the assistant, partake, then return to your seat via the side aisles, depositing your disposable cup in the provided bowls.

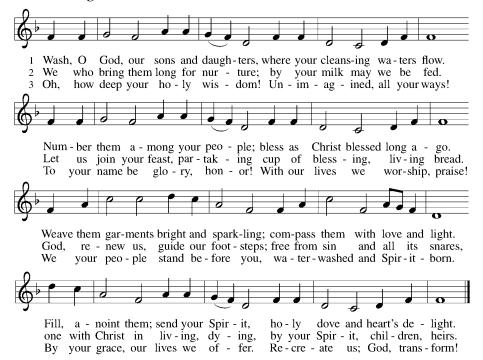
#### For communion at your seat with pre-packaged kit:

You may come to altar rail as above, take a communion kit from the assistant, and return to your seat to partake. Or you may remain seated and partake of the communion kit you picked up at the entrance. The ushers will come around to collect empty kits.





## **COMMUNION HYMN** . . . "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"



## SINGING BOWL

#### Please Stand

#### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

- P: We have tasted your goodness, O God, in your gifts of word and sacrament. May our hearts burn within us, that we may proclaim your mighty acts and joyfully live as your chosen people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- All: Amen.



## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

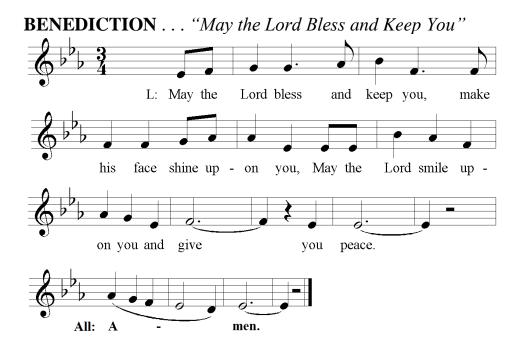
- L: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup
- All: we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more.
- L: Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
- All: that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Be Seated

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please Stand

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING





## DISMISSAL

- L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- L: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- All: Thanks be to God.



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