Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

- P: Here today there is love, freely available to all.
- C: Not our human loving, fragile and intermittent, but God's supreme love.
- P: May a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, break forth into joyous songs of praise.
- C: Here today is love, higher than our loftiest hopes, deeper than the immensities of time and space, God's inclusive love.
- P: Let the seas roar their praise, and everything in them.
- C: Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills sing together their happiness.
- P: The joy of the living Christ Jesus be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

(Please rise as you are able)

Opening Songs

"I Believe In Jesus"

I believe in Jesus, I believe He is the Son of God; I believe He died and rose again, I believe He paid for us all. And I believe that He's here now, Standing in our midst Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

And I believe in You, Lord, I believe You are the Son of God; I believe You died and rose again, I believe You paid for us all. And I believe that You're here now, Standing in our midst; Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

I BELIEVE IN JESUS, Marc Nelson, c. 1987,1997 Mercy/Vineyard, CCLI 655526

"Holy Spirit"

There's nothing worth more, That could ever come close
No thing can compare, You're our living hope
Your presence, Lord

I've tasted and seen, Of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free, And my shame is undone
Your presence, Lord

(CHORUS) Holy Spirit, You are welcome here Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for To be overcome by Your presence, Lord Your presence, Lord.

There's nothing worth more, That could ever come close
No thing can compare, You're our living hope
Your presence, Lord
I've tasted and seen, Of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free, And my shame is undone
Your presence, Lord

(CHORUS) Holy Spirit, You are welcome here Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for To be overcome by Your presence, Lord Your presence, Lord.

Let us become more aware of Your presence Let us experience the glory of Your goodness Let us become more aware of Your presence Let us experience the glory of Your goodness Let us become more aware of Your presence

Let us experience the glory of Your goodness

(CHORUS) Holy Spirit, You are welcome here Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for To be overcome by Your presence, Lord

Bryan & Katie Torwalt, C. 2011 Jesus Culture: Praise Charts, CCLI 655526

(Please be seated)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

- P: A reading from Romans: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
- Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- C: We give you thanks, holy and gracious God, for you created the waters of the earth: wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.
- P: You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you.
- C: Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.
- P: You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.
- C: Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.

P: Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Special Music

Sunday School Kids

(Please rise as you are able)

Gospel Reading: John 15:9-17

P: A reading from the gospel of John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Emily Dalen

Song of Response "Good Good Father"

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like But I've heard the tender whispers of love in the dead of night

And you tell me that you're pleased And that I'm never alone

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

Oh, and I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching
For answers only you provide
'Cause you know just what we need
Before we say a word

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am

Because you are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways to us
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways
You are perfect in all of your ways to us

Oh, this love so undeniable I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I, I can hardly think
As you call me deeper still, As you call me deeper still
As you call me deeper still into love, love

You're a Good, Good Father It's who you are, it's who you are

And I'm loved by you It's who I am, it's who I am

You're a Good, Good Father
It's who you are, it's who you are
And I'm loved by you
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

Written by Pat Barrett and Tony Brown, CCLI 65526

Recognition of Faith Formation Leaders

Intercessory Prayers

P: Risen Lord, C: Receive our prayer.

We Share God's Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share God's peace with those around us.

(Please be seated)

We Bring Our Tithes and Offerings

(Please rise as you are able)

Offering Song "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich" Because of what the Lord has done for us:

And now let the sick say, "I am whole," let the bound say, "I am free"

Because of what the Lord has done for me.

Give thanks...Give thanks...Give thanks

GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith, c. 1978, Integrity's Hosanna! Music, CCLIC 655526

Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

Words of Institution

P: On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: 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, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Remembering our Lord, let us pray the prayer 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. All are welcome.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Song

"We Believe"

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear.

There is only one foundation: we believe, we believe.

In this broken generation, when all is dark You help us see.

There is only one salvation: we believe, we believe.

We believe in God, the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.

We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquer'd death.

We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again. We believe

So, let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing.

And in our weakness and temptations, we believe. We believe! (chorus)

We believe in God, the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.

We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquer'd death.

We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again.

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised.

In the here and now let love invade.

Let the church live loud. Our God, we'll say, "We believe, we believe."

And the gates of hell will not prevail for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.

Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe, we believe

We believe in God, the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.

We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquer'd death.

We believe in the resurrection,

and He's coming back, He's coming back again.

He's coming back again. We believe. We believe.

Matthew Hooper, Richie, Fike and Travis Ryan, C. Abundant Life Ministries UK, Integrity Worship Music, CCLI 566626

(Please rise as you are able)

Communion Blessing

P: And now, may the body and blood of our crucified and risen Lord strengthen you and keep you in His grace, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

The Benediction

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope \oplus bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song "They'll Know We Are Christians"

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

(refrain) And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. (refrain)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side. We will work with each other; we will work side by side. And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride. (refrain)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come.

And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.

And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one. (refrain)

They'll Know We are Christians, Peter Scholtes, c 1966, FEL Publications, CCLIC 566626

Sending Mission:

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Week of May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Altar Flowers: Randy Rath

Welcome Team: 8:00 a.m. Shirley Chambers & Annie Vorthmann; 10:30 a.m. Gene & Jan

Young/Alissa, Maggie & Creed Hough Tellers: Doug & LaJean Wehring

<u>Musicians</u>: 8:00 a.m. Megan Dreyer; 10:30 a.m. Megan Dreyer <u>Acolyte</u>: 8:00 a.m. Cora White; 10:30 a.m. Shelby Vorthmann

Reader: Patty Walter

<u>Prayers:</u> Jerry Lustgraaf; Robert Meier II; Lyn Suglia; Jeri Schnepel; Ava Steeve; Ed Whitehill;

Brenda Riley; Roger Grant; Peggy Engle; Beth Lucy; Logan Young (Military).

<u>June/July Tower Talk:</u> The Tower Talk for June and July will be combined into one publication. Please make sure to give your information to Jonelle for **BOTH** months by May 15th.

<u>Vacation Bible School Prep:</u> Come and help the VBS Team get decorations ready for VBS week! We will meet next Sunday right after the late worship service in the upstairs library. We will have pizza for lunch.

<u>Baccalaureate</u>: All friends and family of graduating seniors are invited to Baccalaureate on Monday, May 13th following Senior Awards Night. Zion will host.

<u>Get Signed up for VBS!</u>: Registration forms for 4-year-olds through 6th grade are out for our week of VBS on June 3rd - 7th, and can be found at church and on our website. Also, please consider how you can help with VBS by volunteering. See the volunteer sign-up outside the church office.

100 Days of Summer: You are invited to read a Bible story each day of summer to get to know God's Word better. Read one story each day from Memorial Day to Labor Day. We'll explore the 100 most popular stories and stories that are often left out of the lectionary. Many of the stories are in the Spark Story Bible, too. Check the May Tower Talk for a reading plan. The page numbers written in are for the Spark Story Bible. If your family would like one of these Bibles, talk with Pastor Emily or Denise. Additionally, you are invited to join Pastor Emily on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. beginning May 29th for a Walk and Talk. We'll walk and discuss the stories we're reading.

Summer Worship Schedule: We'll have one service at 9:30 a.m. beginning May 26th.

This Week's Calendar:

Sun. 5/5: 8:00 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Final Adult Bible Study/Final Day of Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. VBS Decorating Prep. (Library) 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Silver Creek 4-H in F-hall

Mon. 5/6: 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thurs. 5/9: Denise's Day Off

8:30 a.m. OFFICE CLOSED/Staff Retreat

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Fri. 5/10: Pastor Emily's Day Off Sun. 5/12: 8:00 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Worship

Worship Attendance on 4/28/24: 8:00 a.m.: 42: Online: 20: 10:30 a.m.: 74: Online: 30

Sunday School Attendance on 4/28/24: 24

Stewardship Emphasis: The Mission for May: World Hunger

Current Financial Information: Posted on the bulletin board outside the Church office.

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