

(An Offering Collection Box is located on the table in the back of sanctuary, by the exit door)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: *Generous God of love and grace, bless these gifts with your abundant love and your life-giving grace. Bless us as we bear witness to your love and grace in all that we say, all that we give, and all that we do. Amen.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Disciple Affirmation* Blue Chalice Hymnal, #355

HYMN *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* Blue Chalice Hymnal, #459

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are witnesses of God's love.

Congregation: **We are witnesses of God's love.**

Pastor: You are witnesses of Christ's life.

Congregation: **We are witnesses of Christ's life.**

Pastor: You are witnesses of the power of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **We are witnesses of life and love in the Spirit.**

Pastor: Go forth as witnesses of the blessings of our God.

Congregation: **We will go forth as witnesses of the blessings of our God.**

All people: *Amen.*

POSTLUDE

References

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April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter

PREWORSHIP MUSIC GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS CANDLELIGHTING PRELUDE

Acolyte
Mr. Kevin Crone

Centering Thought

Trust God. Trust the miracles you have known. Trust the miracle you can be.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Turn to Christ,

Congregation: **who calls us here.**

Pastor: Place your trust in God,

Congregation: **who protects our lives.**

Pastor: Lean into Spirit,

Congregation: **as we worship in Spirit and truth.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All people: *God of miracles and truth, bless us, as we gather for worship, with the power of your Holy Spirit. Reveal your presence in our midst and open our hearts and minds to receive your miraculous love. Strengthen our faith this day, that we may go forth as witnesses of your miraculous love. Amen.*

HYMN *The Strife is O'er* Blue Chalice Hymnal, #173

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: Turn to God. If your heart is heavy, invite Christ to lighten the load. If your heart is hardened, invite the Spirit to soften and change you. Truly, we all need to receive God's grace and to heed Christ's call.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All people: *Answer us, O God, as we turn to you for mercy and strength. Listen to the yearnings of our hearts and the regrets of our lives. Comfort us in our distress and pour your grace into our lives. Redeem us with your love, that we might rise with Christ, newborn and vibrantly alive. Grant us the confidence to witness to your life-giving love. Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God fills our hearts with joy and covers our lives with grace. Rest in this truth and be at peace.

All people: *All is well and all will be well. Hallelujah!*

PRAISE HYMN

Halle, Halle, Halle

Blue Chalice Hymnal, #41

Hal - le - Hal - le - Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal - le - Hal - le - Hal - le - lu - ja.
Hal - le - Hal - le - Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal - le - lu - ja.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: As God leads us beside the still waters of grace, Christ invites us to offer these still waters of grace and peace to one another, that all may know the peace of God.

(The congregation may be seated, as the children & youth come forward)

JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME"

HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

Blue Chalice Hymnal, #24

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

PSALTER READING

Liturgist: Let us read together, Psalm 4, verses 1 through 8

Congregation: Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God!
Set me free from my troubles!

Liturgist: How long, you people, will my reputation be insulted?
How long will you continue to love what is worthless and go after lies?

Congregation: Know this: the Lord takes personal care of the faithful.
The Lord will hear me when I cry out to him.

Liturgist: So be afraid, and don't sin!
Think hard about it in your bed and weep over it!

Congregation: We will bring righteous offerings,
and trust in Yahweh (the LORD).

Liturgist: Many people say, "We can't find goodness anywhere.
The light of your face has left us, Lord!"

Congregation: But you have filled my heart with more joy
than when their wheat and wine are everywhere!

All people: I will lie down and fall asleep in peace
because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety.

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:36b-48

SERMON

Rev. Laura Baker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All people: *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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

For the Beauty of the Earth

Chime Choir

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: As we have been loved, we are invited to love. As God has given generously to us, we are invited to give generously to God and to God's church. May our hearts brim with love and generosity as we enter this time of offering, dedicating all we have to give with a song and prayer.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

OFFERING RESPONSE *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the house of the
Lord. We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the
house of the Lord. And we of-fer up to
you the sac-ri-fic-es of thanks-giv-ing; and we
of-fer up to you the sac-ri-fic-es of joy.