



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Laura Wasson

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: Jesus Christ is alive and among us now. Even as the light pushes back the dark, so too Jesus Christ has defeated death. Let us worship God in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.

All: Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.

Liturgist: The seas have lifted up, Lord, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves.

All: Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea — the Lord on high is mighty.

Liturgist: Your statutes, Lord, stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days.
Psalm 93

Choir: "With A Voice of Singing"

Jennings

With a voice of singing declare you, and tell this;
Utter it even to the ends of the earth. Hallelujah!
The Lord hath redeemed his servant, Jacob. Hallelujah!

Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands.
Sing forth the honor of his name, make his praise glorious.

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

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** 575 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
Singing verses 1, 2, and 4 (singing verse 1 in unison)

*Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing
before they leave for "God Loves Me" and "Children in Worship."*

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reconciliation

Liturgist: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you – the riches of his glorious inheritance in his people and his incomparably great power for us who believe

Silent Confession and Lament

Liturgist: That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that can be invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

All: **And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.**
Ephesians 1:17-23

* **All Singing:** 224 "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Choir: "I Will Not Leave You Comfortless" Titcomb

I will not leave you comfortless
I will come to you yet again: Alleluia.
And your heart shall be joyful. Alleluia.

Scripture: John 17:1-17

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Giving God the Glory

* **All Singing:** 861 "In our Lives, Lord, Be Glorified"

Dedication

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF ELDERS & DEACONS

Charge to the Elders – Deb Kamp

Charge to the Deacons – Zak Thomson

Charge to the Congregation – Sally Larsen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness

OFFERING

1. General Fund

2. Chicago West Side Christian School

OFFERTORY

Choir: “Meet Me Here”
from *Considering Matthew Shepherd* by Craig Hella Johnson

*Meet me here won't you meet me here
Where the old fence ends and the horizon begins
There's a balm in the silence like an understanding air
Where the old fence ends and the horizon begins*

We've been walking through the darkness on this long, hard climb
Carried ancestral sorrow for too long a time
Will you lay down your burden lay it down, come with me
It will never be forgotten held in love, so tenderly

*Meet me here won't you meet me here
Where the old fence ends and the horizon begins
There's a joy in the singing like an understanding air
Where the fence ends and the horizon begins.*

Then we'll come to the mountain we'll go bounding to see
That great circle of dancing and we'll dance endlessly
And we'll dance with the all the children who've been lost along the way
We will welcome each other coming home, this glorious day

*We are home in the mountain and we'll gently understand
That we've been friends forever that we've never been alone
We'll sing on through any darkness and our Song will be our sight
We can learn to offer praise again coming home to the light*

* **All Singing: 965 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

* BENEDICTION

Postlude: “Lord, Be Glorified”

Mark Hayes

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist:
Soloist:
Choir Director:
Accompanist:
Minister:

Dora Diephouse
Helen Van Wyck
David Baar
Beverly Baar
Roger Nelson

Acolyte:
Liturgist:
Prayer:

Chase Van Marion
Emily Hillegonds
Moriah Dykstra

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