

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Veenker

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: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.

All: Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Liturgist: Praise him with trumpet, harp, lyre, tambourine, dancing, strings, flute, and the clash of cymbals.

All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Liturgist: Let those gathered in resurrection hope, praise the Lord!

Psalm 150 adapted

* **All Singing: 571 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"**

Singing verses 1, 3, 4, and 5

* GOD'S GREETING

Minister: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first born from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

All: To him who loves us and us freed us from our sins, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and father – to him be glory and power forever and ever!
Revelation 1:4-6 adapted

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing: 952 "Praise God! Heaven and Earth Rejoice"**

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: Look, he is coming with the clouds! And every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him.

All: So shall it be! Amen.

Liturgist: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "The one who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."
Revelation 1:7-8 adapted

All Singing: "Surely it is God Who Saves Me"
Singing through three times

**Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

Liturgist: Almighty God, in the confidence of the resurrection and the hope of your coming, hear your people as they pray:

**All: Lord have mercy on us.
Where we are worn and tired bring new life.
Where we are hard-hearted bring love.
Where we have caused hurt bring forgiveness.
Where we are locked up bring freedom.**

Silent Confession and Reflection

Liturgist: Peter was brought before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest and was accused of teaching in the name of Jesus. But, Peter replied:

All: The God of our mothers and fathers raised Jesus from the dead!

Liturgist: The one that was killed by hanging on a tree, God has exalted to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give to us repentance and the forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, who God has given to those who obey him.
Acts 5:27-32 adapted

* **All Singing: 186 "Low in the Grave He Lay"**

Liturgist: Therefore, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

All: As dearly loved children let us be imitators of God and live a life of love.

Liturgist: Just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 4:32 – 5:2

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Prepare our hearts, O God, to hear your Word and obey your will.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Scripture: John 20:19-31

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Heart of the Matter

* **All Singing:** 929 “See My Hands and Feet”
Sung to “Pleading Savior,” see 928

Dedication

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. Missionary Efforts

OFFERTORY “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” arr.Culli

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

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

* BENEDICTION

Postlude: “Marcia” Wiren

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist:	Dora Diephouse	Acolyte:	Adam Post
Vocalists:	Chris & Greda Gabrielse	Liturgist:	Mary Post
Minister:	Roger Nelson	Prayer:	Bill Boerman-Cornell

Bethel University Chamber Orchestra

Natasha Montzka, *Director*

Frances Boerman-Cornell, *concertmaster*
Laura Hunt, *violin I*
Anna Fischer, *violin I*
Delenn Breeding, *violin I*

Felicia Amenumey, *principal violin II*
Hannah Weber, *violin II*
Mikki Hutchinson, *violin II*
Diego Meraz, *violin II*

Sierra Sedlacek, *principal viola*

South Holland, IL, Social Work/Spanish
Apple Valley, MN, English/Philosophy
Plymouth, MN, Biokinetics/Psychology
Isanti, MN, Psychology

Oakdale, MN, Biokinetics
Champlin, MN, Elementary Education
St. Paul, MN, Guest Instrumentalist
Andover, MN, Music Education/Journalism

Roseville, MN, Biokinetics/Music


Lauren Groff, *principal cello*
Dessah Thao, *cello*
Kedran St. George, *cello*
Annabelle Linson, *cello*
Graci Graham, *cello*

Matthew Hutchinson, *principal bass*
Derek Chmielecki, *bass*

Minneapolis, MN, Enviro/Biblical Studies
Oak Grove, MN, Psychology/Music
Eden Prairie, MN, Engineering/Math
Plymouth, MN, Physics
Mayer, MN, Math/Business/Computer Science

St. Paul, MN, Music
Clearwater, KS, Environmental Science

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