

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 16, 2023

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

\*Opening (Stand) #323 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" LLANFAIR

### \*Call to Worship (Stand)

Say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you."

**Risen Lord, we have not seen you in the flesh;  
Nevertheless, we know you live, and we believe in you!**

Take refuge in the Lord; rejoice in his presence.

Give glory to Jesus Christ, whom you have come to love.

**Give us your spirit to refine our faith;**

**Teach us, O Christ, that our faith may prove true.**

Thus says the Lord: As for the holy ones in the land,

They are the noble, in whom is all my delight."

**All praise and glory and honor to Jesus Christ,**

**Both now, here among us, and at his final coming.**

†Timothy Matthew Slemmons, "Lightening from the East: Liturgical Elements for Reformed Worship,  
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### \*Opening Prayer (Stand)

Song of Faith #290 "The Strife Is O'er" VICTORY

Proclamation of Faith & Forgiveness The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

Alleluia "Sing Alleluia" Worship Team



## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Laurie Dewey

The First Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32

The Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand) John 20:19-31

\*Responsorial (Stand) #326 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

\*Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)

Children's Sermon (Kids 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

**Announcements & Prayers of the Community Prayer – 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

**Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations** - Worshippers are invited to give their tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord.



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Prayer of Dedication

A Prayer of Illumination & The Message

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

## WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

**Invitation to Faith and Fellowship** – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

\*Closing Hymn (Stand) # "The Blessing" Worship Team

\*Spoken Benediction

\*Postlude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

## HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

**GOOD NEWS!** God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) which have hurt God and others. Apologize to God and turn away from harmful behavior and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer and Redeemer (Savior) and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

**HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD** – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.



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