

Collenbrook United Church WORSHIP

May 24, 2020 Seventh Sunday of Easter

WELCOME SONG *He Has Made Me Glad (sing 2x)*

Leona Von Brethorst

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart; I will enter His courts with praise.
I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made!" I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

CHORUS:

He has made me glad, He has made me glad; I will rejoice for He has made me glad

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Today is a new day! We come with the past behind us, in the presence of now, and the future open before us. We gather to worship God and celebrate the new life Christ offers us. God is present! Christ is with us! The Spirit calls to us to love God with our whole being!

HYMN – "Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise" (tune of "Christ the Lord is Risen Today")

1. Hail the day that sees Christ rise, Al-le-lu-ia! To the throne in paradise; Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the Lamb for sinners given, Al-le-lu-ia! Enters now the highest heaven. Al-le-lu-ia!
2. Christ, for you high triumph waits, Al-le-lu-ia! Lift your heads, eternal gates! Al-le-lu-ia! You have conquered death and sin; Al-le-lu-ia! You, our Sovereign, enter in! Al-le-lu-ia!
3. See! The nail-marked hands above; Al-le-lu-ia! Sing of God's redeeming love; Al-le-lu-ia! Hark! Christ's words our hearts assure; Al-le-lu-ia! "I will send a Comforter!" Al-le-lu-ia!
4. Christ for us still intercede, Al-le-lu-ia! By your suffering for us plead; Al-le-lu-ia! Make us worthy of the place, Al-le-lu-ia! Which you offer us by grace, Al-le-lu-ia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

We gather in our own spaces, yet as one people. We come seeking to be people of resurrection. Be known among us, wherever we are. Grant us the assurance of your presence, your love, your renewing power. Through your Word and Spirit, show us the purpose of our lives both personally and as a community of faith. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Our scripture tells us that we are created in the image of God. I wonder. I wonder if a part of what that means is that we have been created as God imagined us to be. That would certainly lead us to understand that we have been created as perfectly imperfect beings. We are forever in a state of needing to grow and learn about ourselves in order to grow. A part of our growth is recognizing our growing edges and all that separates us from God, from each other, and yes, even from ourselves. That is what confession is all about, our need to name our human condition and seek God for grace and mercy.

Please join me in prayer.

God of love, we forget. We forget that you are constantly present with us. We forget that we can turn to you always. We forget that we are accountable to you, to each other, and to ourselves. We forget that your love for us is not contingent upon anything we do and say, or don't do and say. We forget our need to be real and honest with ourselves, let alone, with you. We forget to confess. Help our forgetfulness, and open our minds to the healing power of your love and forgiveness... (silent reflection)

We are so blessed and grateful to you, O God! You see us as we are and love us still! You hear us and forgive us without conditions attached! Thanks be to you, O God, of love and mercy!
Amen.

HYMN – “Come to Tend God’s Garden”

1. Come to tend God’s garden, seeds of hope to sow, planting fields of justice, watching mercy grow! In an arid wasteland, spread a verdant health! In a land of tumult, cultivate God’s peace.
2. As we tend God’s garden, from its furrows rise – stems of fresh beginnings, stretching toward the skies! Graciousness, our meadow, joyfulness our root, unity, our foliage, righteousness our fruit!
3. May God’s garden flourish, may our toil succeed, may God bless our actions, every word and deed! Serving Christ each season, with God’s diagram, charted by the Spirit, for the task at hand.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 47

Acts 1:1—14

MESSAGE “Theophilus – Lover of God” The Rev. Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell

A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT GIVING ON WEBSITE OR MAIL

Prayer of dedication: God, bless our gifts... that they may be shared in the spirit of a resurrection people, ever seeking ways to live out our faith in acts of love and service. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING SONG

THE PATH

composed by P.A. Lawrence-Caldwell

CHORUS: The path to love is in my heart; The path to love is in my soul; The path to love is always with me; The path to love is always known!

When I stumble on life's bumps, I sometimes cry and shake my hands; forgetting why I should be joyous and walk the path that brings me home.

CHORUS: The path to love is in my heart; The path to love is in my soul; The path to love is always with me; The path to love is always known!

I walk the path set before me; it sometimes has some twists and turns, But when I step with Jesus next to me, the path becomes my way home.

CHORUS

My life is full of toils and troubles, my life can sometimes be so hard; But when I take that path before me, I know that Jesus is my home.

CHORUS

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BENEDICTION

Pastor:

The Rev. Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell

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