

Ascension Sunday
Sunday, May 21, 2023

Welcoming and Announcements

Centring Music: Morning Has Broken

English Folk arr. G. Parsons

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sing to God, all the earth.

Sing the glory of God's name!

Give to God glory and praise!

All the earth worships you, O God.

We light the Christ candle and praise your name forever.

Opening Hymn: **This is God's Wondrous World**

(Voices United 296)

Words: Maltbie Davenport Babcock 1901, alt.

Music: English traditional melody;

adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard 1915; adapt. Stanley Oliver 1929 © Music ©

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 605244. All rights reserved.

1 This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.

3 This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Opening Prayer

O God of earth and sky,
as Jesus came among us in Bethlehem to raise us up to
heaven, so today we recall his departing from us, to be
present in all places.
Though he is hidden from our sight,
enable us to see him and to abide in him, by the power and
grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (sung) Songs for a Gospel People

A Time to Wonder Beth

Special Music: Step By Step

David Strasser CCLI # 696994

Scripture Reading

Acts 1: 1-11

Luke 24: 44-53

The New Creed (please stand as you are able)

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection: "In God's Name"

Hymn of the Day: Your Love Is Amazing (More Voices 26)

Words and music: Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen

Words and music copyright © 2000 Vineyard Songs. Used by permission.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 605244. All rights reserved.

Refrain Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,
 your love makes me sing.
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,
 your love makes me sing.

1. Your love is amazing, steady, and unchanging,
 Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet.
 Your love is a myst'ry, how you gently lift me.
 When I am surrounded, your love carries me. *Refrain*
2. Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising,
 All the joy that's growing deep inside of me.
 Ev'ry time I see you all your goodness shines through.
 I can feel this God song rising up in me. *Refrain*
3. Your love is amazing, steady, and unchanging,
 Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet.
 Your love is a myst'ry, how you gently lift me.
 When I am surrounded, your love carries me. *Refrain*

Invitation to Offering

Generous and giving God, we give thanks for the many blessings and answered prayers we have received and so we respond with humble gratitude. Our offering will now be received.

Choral Response: Give Thanks (please stand as you are able)

Henry Smith CCLI # 20235

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks.

Offering Prayer

God of grace, of blessings and of love, we offer these our gifts to you with joy and praise. May they serve all people, sharing in the love you have showed us. In all that we do, we pray in your son's name. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Ourselves and for Others

Parting Hymn: We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection
(Voices United 586)

Words: June Boyce-Tillman 1993

Music: Traditional Irish melody, arr. John Barnard 1982

Words copyright © 1993 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

Used by permission of Hope Publishing Company.

Arrangement copyright © 1993 Hope Publishing Company.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 605244. All rights reserved.

- 1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.
- 2 We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.

Benediction

Postlude: You Shall Go Out With Joy

Words: Steffi G. Rubin 1975; Music Stuart Dauermann 1975

Words and music copyright © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Company

Worship Leadership – Pastor Beth Parsons
Music Leadership - Glenn Parsons and The Band
(Joe Bradley, Stephen Godfrey, Kate Insley,
Kathy Rassenti, Doug Thompson)
Vocals – Peggy Dayton and Alan Priestley
Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey
Scripture Reading – Edward Hickcox
Greeters – Edith and Les Hudgins
Spirit Kids Program – Leslie Moffat
Technical Support – Sam Boehner and Louise Johnston
Fellowship Time – Ethel Wilson Women's Group
Flowers are offered by Sue and Ken Christensen
in celebration of the life of Sue's mother, Iva Collins.