St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

The Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday – May 5, 2024

Building a community of faith unleashed into the world by the love of God.

Words & Music to Hymns/Responses are included at the end of the bulletin.

Gathering Around the Word

Centering Meditation

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come. ~ Henri Nouwen

Music during Meditation

I Love Thee by Jeremiah Ingalls

Come My Way, My Truth, My Life (music by Ralph Vaughn Williams)

words by George Herbert arr. by Mark A. Henry

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Dove of Peace (from The Southern Harmony)

arr. by Harry Strack compiled by William Walker

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things!

All: Sing of God's great faithfulness and steadfast love to all.

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; sing praises!

All: Rejoice in the presence of God, who reigns with equity and justice.

Opening Hymn # 366 (see below) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Call to Confession

One: We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his one commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

Prayer of Confession

All: God of love, you invite us to abide in your love. But so often we fail. We confuse loving one another with liking one another. When we cannot like one another, we give up on loving. We smile falsely. We speak ill of others. We grieve you with our weak love. O God, have mercy on us. Choose us yet again. Secure in your love, help us to love one another; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Prayers

Words of Forgiveness

One: God's love lasts forever. There is no corner of the world and no corner of our lives that God's love cannot reach. There is no age, no condition, no circumstance that God's love cannot touch. Believe the good news. In God's grace, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

Passing of Christ's Peace

One: The peace of Christ always be with you.

All: And also with you.

Response # 583 (see below) Glory to God / Gloria, gloria

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

One: Without your Spirit, O God, the words that we now read are dead letters. Without your Spirit, O God our hearts are dead as well. Come to us Spirit of God, that your Word and our hearts are raised to life at your coming. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 98 pew Bible, page 480

Anthem In Remembrance

composed by Buryl Red; lyrics by Ragan Courtney

Second Reading: John 15:9-17 pew Bible, page 878

Sermon Abiding in Love Rev. Catherine Robinson

Responding to the Word

Hymn # 693 (see below) Though I May Speak

Invitation to the Offering

One: Let us show our love for our neighbors by giving generously so that we may bear lasting fruit for Christ's realm.

Offertory My Song Is Love Unknown by John David Edwards arr. by Tracey Craig McKibben

Response # 591 (Refrain only) Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world – giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Sealing the Word

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

One: The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

One: Blessed are you, O Lord our God... joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Sanctus # 556 (see below) Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One

who comes in the Lord's name.

Hosanna in the highest.

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One: Teach us to pray: Pray through us as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us.

All: Loving God, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Breaking the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Music We Are Called arr. by Mark Hayes by David Haas

Prayer Following Communion

One: Let us pray.

All: Thank you, O God, for giving us communion with our risen and glorious Lord.

Now send us out to be a sign of the new life that has come into the world;

through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word Into the World

Closing Hymn # 203 (see below) Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Matters of Community

Postlude I Sing the Mighty Power of God (*Ellacombe*) arr. by Lloyd Larson

Charge and Benediction

Pastor: ... and let the people say:

All: Alleluia! Amen.

Resources: https://calltoworshipjournal.org/may-5-2024-sixth-sunday-of-easter/

Gambrell, David. Connections Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost (p. 188). Westminster John Knox Press. Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 (p. 170). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 (p. 172). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation.

St. Andrew Staff

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Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke

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Julie Taylor

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Pianist

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Liturgist

Joe Woodworth

Guest Preacher

Rev. Catherine Robinson

Musicians

Denise Baccadutre – piano St. Andrew Vocal Choir

Greeters

Elmer Jackson, Karen Ulack

Tech Team

Jim Dillow, David Schneider Richard Irish, Rosemary Cochran Chris Fogel, Janet McEwen Valerie Dalton, Karen Ulack Bob Busch, Suzanne Busch Kevin Hughes, Barbara Sanders James & Sharon Macklin, Josiah Fidel

Worship Planning

Rev. Catherine Robinson Resources: see next page

Music

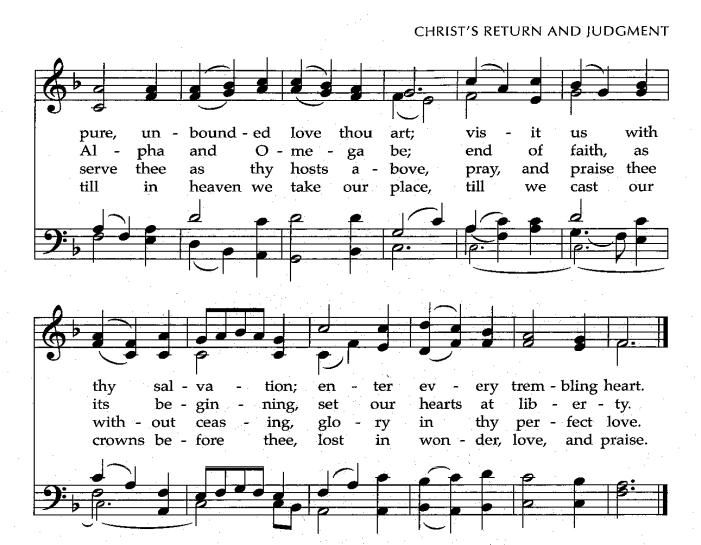
Though I May Speak — Text: Hal H Hopson, 1972; Music adapted by Hal H. Hopson © 1972, Hope Publishing Company; Halle, Halle, Hallelujah — Text: Marty Haugen, 1990; Iona Community; Tune: Arr. by John L. Bell; © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; Jesu Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love — Text: Tom Calivin1969; rev. 1997; arr. by Jane Marshall, 1982; Words and Music ©1982 Hope Publishing Company; All other hymns are in the public domain.

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$366\,$ Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



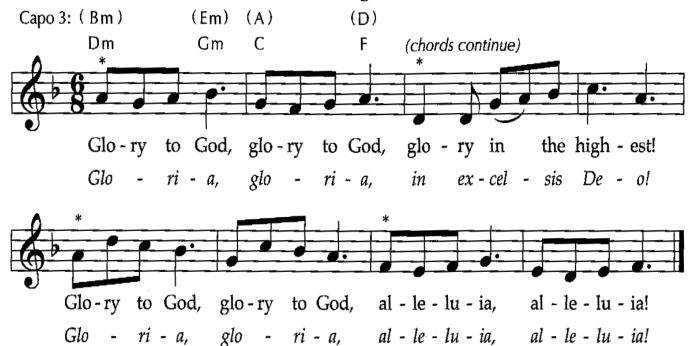
This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.



Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria



*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

Though I May Speak

The Gift of Love

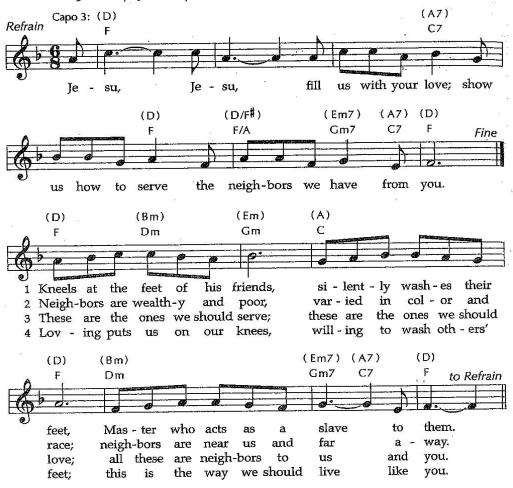


As paraphrases of 1 Corinthians 13:1, 3 the first two stanzas here are in the first person singular, yet they lead into a plural prayer for the gift of such love, for it thrives in community. These words are especially poignant with this adaptation of an English folk melody.





203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Considering that this text comes from a part of the world where Christianity is not the primary religion gives these simple but powerful words even more depth and meaning. The tune name recalls the district in the wNorthern Region of Ghana where this tune was collected.