St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25, 2025

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

Gathering Around the Word

Centering Meditation

"We can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever-widening circle will reach around the world. There is nothing we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, to love our enemy as our friend." -Dorothy Day

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude Dona Nobis Pacem arr. Marilyn Ham

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We gather in the presence of God to encounter Love that sets free.

All: We do not come seeking crumbs of justice but a way of life that liberates.

One: Together, we practice courage in resisting evil and rejecting the temptations of complicity and complacency.

All: The Spirit leads us in power and truth.

One: Our faith is placed in Love Eternal that lifts broken spirits and brings new life from places of ruin.

All: With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we come to follow Christ.

Opening Hymn #242 Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded

Call to Confession

One: The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with signs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession
All: Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.

We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death.

We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are indifferent to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made.

Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, our risen sibling and Savior.

Silent Prayers

Response #551

Lord, Have Mercy

Assurance of Pardon

One: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Passing of Christ's Peace

One: The peace of Christ always be with you.

All: And also with you.

Response #243 Be Not Afraid

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

One: Divine Spirit, surround us with the wisdom of your word that we might dance in your love and be messengers of your truth in this world. Amen.

First Reading Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 Pew Bible, p.1008

Anthem

Second Reading

John 14:23-29

Pew Bible, p.877-78

Sermon Daniel Williams

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith:

from A Brief Statement of Faith

All: In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new

Hymn #374 O Holy City, Seen of John

earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Mission Focus Pentecost Offering Video

Invitation to the Offering

One: How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's good yet refuses to help a person in need? Let us offer our lives to the Source of Life.

Offertory You Are Mine David Haas arr. Mark Hayes

Response #240, verse 1 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Prayer of Dedication

One: God of new life, you speak liberation and healing for all the world. Anoint these gifts, so that your Word may be fulfilled in us and in the mission of your church. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Bearing and Following the Word Into the World

Closing Hymn #79 Light Dawns on a Weary World

Matters of Community

Postlude Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory arr. Lloyd Larson

Charge and Benediction

One: And may all the people say:

All: Alleluia, Amen!

St. Andrew Staff

Transitional Pastor

Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke

Director of Music

Julie Taylor

Clerk of Session

Suzanne Busch

Organist/Pianist

Tatiana Shustova Denise Baccadutre

Treasurer

Debbie Steffen

Assistant Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Marie StClaire

Administrative Assistant

Birgitta Gustafson

Deacon Moderator

Sharon Burkhardt

Memorial Secretary

Sharon Burkhardt

Building Maintenance

Julian Lopez

Landscaping

Josh Lopez

Custodian

Georgia Benavidez

Worship Planners and Participants

Liturgist

Jan McEwen

Preacher

Daniel Williams

Musicians

Denise Baccadutre, piano

Tech Team

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

Worship Planning

Pastor Eric and Daniel Williams

Music

For the Healing of the Nations (Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah), John Hughes, arr. Lloyd Larson, Lorenz Publishing Co., 2017. Make Me a Channel of Your Peace, Sebastian Temple, arr. Mark Hayes, Hope Publishing, 2013. Dona Nobis Pacem, arr. Marilyn Ham, Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc., 2011. You Are Mine, David Haas, arr. Mark Hayes, Hope Publishing Company, 2012. Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory, arr. Lloyd Larson, Lorenz Publishing, 2016.

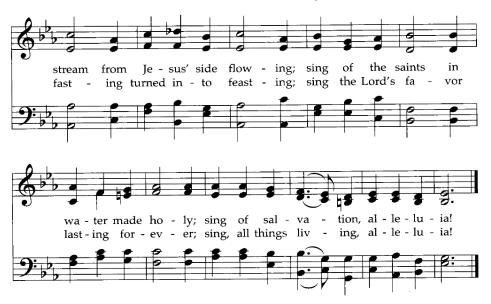
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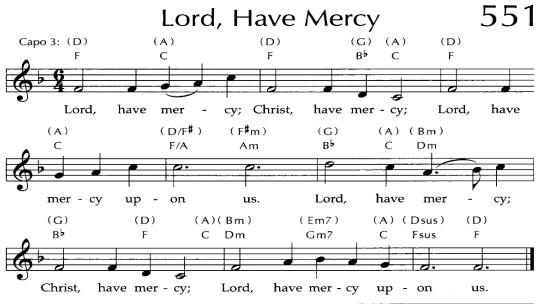
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242 Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded



This joyful Easter hymn brings together many images and responses evoked by Christ's Resurrection. As the second stanza affirms, it does turn mourning into dancing (Psalm 30:11), for this 20th-century text was written to fit the rhythms of this 16th-century Italian dance-song.





TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984 Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. LAND OF REST



Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as "Nebojte se." The English version uses the language of the angel's greeting to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5–6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998 Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID



Unlike texts that treat the heavenly Jerusalem as a goal for the life to come, this hymn regards John's vision as a challenge to work here and now for the accomplishment of God's purposes on earth. The shape note tune provides an effective setting for this stirring text.

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks



This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.



This is a hymn whose tune came first. Upon hearing it, the author recalled the watered garden of Isaiah 58:11, which in turn led to Isaiah 55:12, paraphrased in the refrain. Then came the stanzas, organized around their first two words: Light dawns, Love grows, Hope blooms.