

Order of Worship for Sunday, May 2, 2021
In the Sanctuary

Worship
Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Chiming of the Hour

Lighting of the Candles

***Hymn**

UMH 73

O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
hath established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

***Call to Worship**

We come to hear the story of God's faithfulness to past generations.

But we also look to the future as well as the past.

The God who was with our ancestors is with us as well.

Then we can go forward in hope.

Whatever else fails, God remains faithful.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God! Praise be to God!

AMEN.

We Grow Through the Spoken Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

UMH 881

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

UMH 71

Glory Be to the Father

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

Children and Youth Moment

Handbell Solo

Lori Kolbenschlag, Handbells

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) – arr. By Chris Tomlin & Louie Giglio

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Congregational Response

TFWS 2205

*Lord, may our prayer rise like incense in your sight,
May this place be filled with the fragrance of Christ. Amen.*

Invitation, Confession & Pardon

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Response

Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth.

*Hymn

UMH 514

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
ye soldiers of the cross;
lift high his royal banner,
it must not suffer loss.

From victory unto victory
his army shall he lead,
till every foe is vanquished,
and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the trumpet call obey;
forth to the mighty conflict,
in this his glorious day.
Ye that are brave now serve him
against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger,
and strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you,
ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor,
each piece put on with prayer;
where duty calls or danger,
be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the strife will not be long;
this day the noise of battle,
the next the victor's song.
To those who vanquish evil
a crown of life shall be;
they with the King of Glory
shall reign eternally.

Offertory Prayer

***Presentation of the Offering and Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Nancy Lewis, Reader

Judges 6:11-24

Then the LORD's messenger came and sat under the oak at Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite. His son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to hide it from the Midianites. The LORD's messenger appeared to him and said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior!"

But Gideon replied to him, “With all due respect, my Lord, if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his amazing works that our ancestors recounted to us, saying, ‘Didn’t the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and allowed Midian to overpower us.”

Then the LORD turned to him and said, “You have strength, so go and rescue Israel from the power of Midian. Am I not personally sending you?”

But again Gideon said to him, “With all due respect, my Lord, how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I’m the youngest in my household.”

The LORD replied, “Because I’m with you, you’ll defeat the Midianites as if they were just one person.”

Then Gideon said to him, “If I’ve gained your approval, please show me a sign that it’s really you speaking with me. Don’t leave here until I return, bring out my offering, and set it in front of you.”

The Lord replied, “I’ll stay until you return.”

So Gideon went and prepared a young goat and used an ephah^[b] of flour for unleavened bread. He put the meat in a basket and the broth in a pot and brought them out to him under the oak and presented them. Then God’s messenger said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened bread and set them on this rock, then pour out the broth.” And he did so. The LORD’s messenger reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened bread. Fire came up from the rock and devoured the meat and the unleavened bread; and the LORD’s messenger vanished before his eyes. Then Gideon realized that it had been the LORD’s messenger. Gideon exclaimed, “Oh no, LORD God! I have seen the LORD’s messenger face-to-face!”

But the LORD said to him, “Peace! Don’t be afraid! You won’t die.”

So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it “The LORD makes peace.” It still stands today in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

Sermon

*God of the Underdog - Stories of the Underdog in the Bible:
Gideon*

Holy Eucharist

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest!
Hosana in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

***Hymn**

TFWS 2155

Blest Are They

Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
They shall be consoled.

REFRAIN:

Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you; holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the Kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones;
They shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;
They shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy;
Mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
They shall see God!

Blest are they who seek peace;
They are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
The glory of God is theirs.

Blest are you who suffer hate;
All because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom.
Shine for all to see.

We Go to Serve

***Benediction**

***Responsive Affirmation**

UMH 302, v. 6

All singing: King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

Chimes

The people in silent reflection

*Stand as you are able