

Third Sunday of Easter
11:00 a.m. April 23, 2023

Entering God's Presence

Welcome and Life in the Community

*Hymn 267 **Come, Christians, Join to Sing** MADRID

*Expressing Our Joy Reece Humphreys

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God.

People: It is God that made us, and we are his; we are God's people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

People: Give thanks to God; bless his name!

Leader: For the Lord is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: May the Lord be with you. (Psalm 100)

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sin and ask your forgiveness. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us. Create in us a clean heart and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Hymn 250 **In the Bulb There Is a Flower** PROMISE

Exodus 6:2-9 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 50-51 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem **Fairest Lord Jesus** (Hymn 630) Silesian folk melody

Acts 10 (NRSV) *Selected Verses* [You will find the text on page 120-122 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon **Belief, Behavior, and Belonging** The Rev. Vance E. Polley

*Affirmation of Faith and **Gloria Patri** (No. 581)

Christ Jesus though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death—even death on a Cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen. (Phil. 2:5-11)

Ministry of Prayer [Text prayer requests to: (843) 437-4239]

Dedicating our Gifts and Tithes ~ **See oursunrise.org to give securely online**

(In the *Offering*, we dedicate our lives and a portion of the resources God has entrusted to us. Your gifts may be dedicated online, by mail, or in-person.)

*At the Presentation **Doxology** (No. 606) OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication, concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn 254 **That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright** PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*Benediction

*Going Out into the World

*Those that are able, please stand.