

**The Third Sunday of Easter**

10:00 a.m. April 14, 2024

Entering God's Presence

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

\*Hymn 624 ***I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*** TOULON

\*Expressing Our Joy

*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, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your great mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.***

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

\*Hymn 684 ***Faith Begins by Letting Go*** LUX PRIMA

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 691 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem ***Because He Lives*** The Gaithers

I John 4:7, 8, 11, and 12 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 226 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon ***The Heart of the Church*** 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]

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(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 716 ***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*** BEACH SPRING

\*Benediction

\*Going Out into the World

\*Those that are able, please stand.