



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

April 25, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Eastertide:

"Finding Joy in the Journey...Now!"



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Preparing To Worship...



"Finding Joy in the Journey...Now!"

~ ~ ~

✧ Welcome and Community News

Congregation Annual Meeting right after worship to affirm new officers
and celebrate yet another wonder-full year together!

✧ Readyng Ourselves for Worship

*Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!
Surely God is in this place,
Holy Ground!*

✧ Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:

How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

✧ Gathering as God's People: *(Based upon Psalm 23 and our reading in 1 John)*

One: The One who knows you is calling you...enfolding you in community.

All: I follow the voice of Love...and there is challenge and *Joy in the Journey*.

One: Here, in community, each of us finds refreshment for our body and soul, and a space to rest our weariness.

All: I will rest in this place of peace.

One: A community table is set for us, for our friends, and before our enemies...those enemies within and around us. All made welcome for we are One. We have what each other needs.

All: I gather trusting in community that has no walls.

One: With the care of a shepherd, Christ gathers us!

All: Christ's message to each of us: Love God. Love People. The core of our humanity is: LOVE.

✧Gathering Special Music Video – “Love God Love People” Danny Gokey

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-29WLQ3trA>

✧Opening Ourselves to God’s Grace

✧Sharing Our Inner Most Lives With God

Pastor:

God, Holy Shepherd, through all the valleys of our lives...rough places, deserts, mountaintops, city streets, and backyards of our lives...we need not fear, for You are with us. Through refreshing living water of contemplative prayer, You lie us down. You feed us in worship’s truth and challenge. You satisfy our needs as we do for others in mission. You touch our longing with steadfast friendship. Your goodness and mercy surround us all the days of our lives, now and forever more. **Amen.**

All:

God, I thank You. You protect me, guide me, feed me, love me...shepherd me all the time whether I know it or not. You know me. You know I so long to lie down...rest...be restored. I walk many a dark valley and it often seems “my cup” is emptiest just when I need insight and energy most! In uncertain times I am counting on You to gather me around Your table!

Lord God, these are indeed uncertain times and often I struggle. I struggle to know how to be with those I assume to be friends, let alone my “enemies”. I am often running on empty, irritable or difficult to be around. Yet, You fill me up. You lead me if I will but hear Your voice!

Help me to show up in my own life and not to be “sheepish” about my life’s possibilities...to stay curious. Abba, help me to live “love.” This is my prayer, Lord God. You hear me.



✧You may wish to name with God your need for rest and a “full” cup; or you may share deep appreciation with God for your awareness of the times in which you felt God’s protection, guidance, nourishment, love...and so could show up accepting uncertainty, willing to think differently; or, you may simply invite Jesus to come sit beside you shining his healing light all around and through you.

✧Bible Wisdom Teachings

The Gospel of Thomas Saying #25

Jesus said: “Love your brother or sister like your soul.
Guard each of them like the pupil of your eye.”

John 10:11-18
1 John 3:16-18, 23

One: This is the way our story is told.
God speaks to us anew through ancient stories.

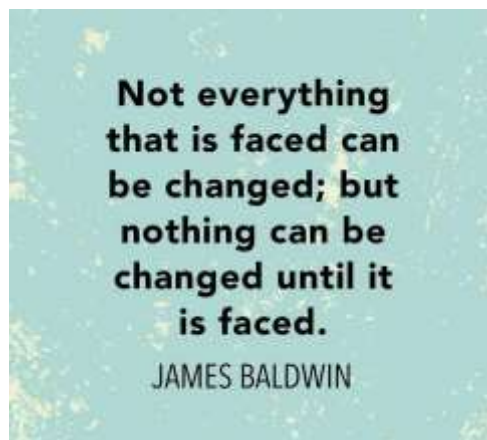
All: Thanks be to our God.

✧Prompting

“Joy In The Journey...Now!”

“Show Up and Make Love Real”

Rev. Karen S. Hagen



✧Special Music Video: “Best Friend” by Jason Mraz
<https://youtu.be/nNS9HZGiaLw>

✧Sharing Our Wisdom



✧ **Affirming Our Faith with Intention...*Our Prayer***

Prayer of Apostle Paul

Beginning of the Letter to Romans in the New, New Testament,
selected verses.

**“Redeem me for I am yours.
You are my mine--birth me.
You are my treasure--open for me.
You are my fullness--receive me.
You are my rest--give me unrestrained maturity.
Give healing to my body and my spirit, and open my mind.
I have trust and hope.
Place upon me Your beloved, chosen, and blessed greatness,
the amazing mystery of Your house.
For Yours is the power and the glory and the praise
and the greatness forever and ever.
Amen.”**

✧ **Community Prayers: Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

✧ **Giving Thanks For Our Community...Our Sustaining Gifts!**



✧ **Benediction...*Becoming a Living Blessing***

What of this shared wisdom goes with you as helpful and life-giving?

✧ **Our Response ...*Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word lives on in us.***

Hear this service presented on Tippe Talk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.