



"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

May 1, 2022

9:30 a.m.

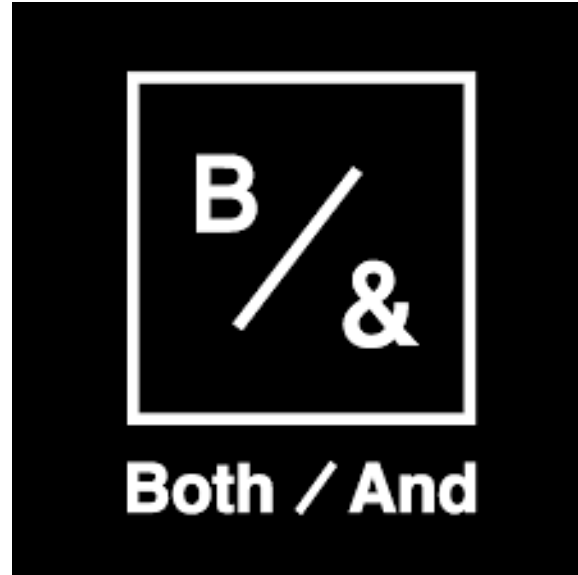
Third Sunday of Easter



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

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Easter

Preparing to Worship...



“Dancing and Shepherding”

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✧ **Prelude: Zo Trembley**

✧ **Welcome and community news**

- Next Friday Night May 6th: "Endings and Beginnings" Meditative Song Circle 7pm Central...our closing circle of the season till fall!
- Tippe is hosting a Town Hall with Sen. Larson, Rep. Sinicki, and Rep. Brostoff. Open to the greater community. A great way to know more so you can be the citizen you are called to be in your faith. May 17th 6-7:30pm in the sanctuary.

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

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

✧ **A Poem to Center Ourselves in this Moment**

**“I Happened to be Standing” ~ Mary Oliver**

I don't know where prayers go,  
or what they do.  
Do cats pray, while they sleep  
half-asleep in the sun?  
Does the opossum pray as it  
crosses the street?  
The sunflowers? The old black oak  
growing older every year?

I know I can walk through the world,  
along the shore or under the trees,  
with my mind filled with things  
of little importance, in full  
self-attendance. A condition I can't  
really  
call being alive.  
Is a prayer a gift, or a petition,  
or does it matter?  
The sunflowers blaze, maybe that's their  
way.  
Maybe the cats are sound asleep. Maybe  
not.

While I was thinking this I happened to  
be standing  
just outside my door, with my notebook  
open,  
which is the way I begin every morning.  
Then a wren in the privet began to sing.

He was positively drenched in  
enthusiasm,  
I don't know why. And yet, why not.  
I wouldn't persuade you from whatever  
you believe  
or whatever you don't. That's your  
business.  
But I thought, of the wren's singing,  
what could this be  
if it isn't a prayer?  
So I just listened, my pen in the air.



✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**  
How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~



✧ **And the Children Will Lead the Way: Kids' Time**



## ✧Gathering as God's People: Our Theme

In this Easter season, we will continue to explore the theme of “both/and.” Throughout Eastertide we witness in our own lives and in the story of the risen Christ, death and rebirth, stillness and movement, sorrow and joy. Amid these experiences, it seems an appropriate time to listen to and watch for what appear to be opposites. Upon a closer look, often we come to recognize what seems disconnected is actually related, and when we attempt to categorize things, we find that they rarely fit neatly into a box. The Bible Wisdom Teachings provide us opportunities to consider the breadth and depth of experience in fresh ways; expanding our awareness beyond dualistic thinking and finding approaches that engage a fuller reality rather than solely looking through the lenses of either/or.

This week I received a book I've been looking forward to reading. It is a book of essays by the poet and author, David Whyte, entitled: “Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment and Underlying Meaning of Everyday Words.” In it, I found his essay focusing on the word, “robustness.” I think it captures much of what we are experiencing as we reenter and reclaim the spaces we inhabit, the time we spend with people in person, and the process of discernment regarding how we can show up and contribute to life as a community. He speaks to the connection between things that appear to be opposites and points to the act of embracing these disparate realities and integrating them into our lives.

*Robustness is a word denoting health, psychological or physical; the ability to meet the world with vigor and impact.... Robustness is a measure of the live frontier in a conversation, whether it is a physical conversation...an exchange of ideas...or [an] argument. Without robustness all relationships become defined by their fragility, wither and begin to die.... Robustness and vulnerability belong together. To be robust is to show a willingness to take collateral damage, to put up with temporary pain, noise, chaos, or our systems being temporarily undone. Robustness means we can veer off either side of the line while keeping a firm ongoing intent.... A robust response always entertains the possibility of humiliation, it is also a kind of faith; a sense that we will somehow survive the impact of a vigorous meeting, though not perhaps in the manner to which we are accustomed. ...the less contact we have with anything other than our own body, our own rhythm, or the way we have arranged our life, the more afraid we can become of the frontier where actual noise, meetings and changes occur. To come out and meet the world again is to heal from isolation, from grief, from illness, from the powers and traumas that first robbed us of that meeting and of a vital sense of presence in the world...to find ourselves alive once more in the encounter. Robustness strangely, demands we find a calm center in the midst of tumult. The quiet is what enables us to be cheerful in noise, equitable in the face of injustice or calm in the face of attack.... Robustness is not an option in most human lives, to choose its opposite is to become invisible.*

May we spend the coming weeks together as a community, seeking a more expansive understanding and considering practices that build in us the capacity to embrace the possibilities within and around us.

## ✧Gathering Hymn 644 Morning Has Broken

### ✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

*All: God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise.*

*Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through the risen Christ. Amen*

### ✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God

Holy One, we struggle to reconcile within ourselves the jumble of feelings and experiences that wash over us. Help us to embrace the sweet with the bitter, reveal to us how to navigate the struggles and watch for the glimmers of joy that are available to us every day. Awaken in us the ability to see your grace and empower us to be grace-filled with one another. Amen.



I invite us now into a few minutes of quiet. Our gathered community enables us to become even more aware of the Divine presence. Enter the sacred awareness of God's accompaniment as you seek understanding and connection.

### ✧Short period of silent reflection

Holy Spirit, may we hear your precious word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

### ✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

#### **Psalm 30**

#### ✧ **Reflection Questions**

Am I a grateful recipient of the gifts that life provides? Do I live with a grace and lightness that make joy and laughter part of my everyday life? How might I come to recognize God's presence, both in times of joy and sorrow?

#### **John 21:4-6, 11-17**

#### ✧ **Reflection Questions**

How do we show our love – for ourselves, for God, and for one another?  
What would it look like:

- to accept ourselves?
- to acknowledge who we really are?
- to be disciples?
- to tend God's sheep?
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One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

#### ✧ **Message “Dancing and Shepherding”** Rev. Trish Eckert



✧ **Hymn: 697 Take My Life**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

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

**All: In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**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 earth praying, "Come, Lord Jesus?"**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.**

✧ **A Moment of Quiet for Everyone**



✧ **Community Prayers and the Pastoral Prayer**

Creator God, we know that you are with us everywhere and in every moment, yet we struggle to remain awake to this truth and to the possibilities you provide. We know that you attend to the many people, places, and circumstances that call for aid and seek your grace.

Hear our prayers, God of grace, and help us to fulfill them, working according to your purpose, in peace, justice, and mercy, in all we do.

As a gathered community we are made more powerfully aware of your presence, Holy One. We are grateful to be reminded once again that your way calls us out of our confusion, distraction, and self-involvement. Free us from our anxiety and our need for control. We seek your healing, your guidance, your wisdom, as we make our way in the world and strive to bring about your kingdom here on earth. Amen.



## ✧ Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People



### Welcome

Since Easter Sunday, we have heard from John's Gospel that the Christ appeared at the empty tomb to Mary Magdalene, then again that evening in the Upper Room where the disciples (except for Thomas) had locked themselves away. He revealed himself, saying "peace be with you" and as he breathed on them, they received the Holy Spirit." A week later, when Thomas and the rest of the disciples were again in the house, Jesus came and stood among them. Jesus invited Thomas to touch him, reminding him that one can believe even without seeing. And now this morning we hear, "Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus." Yet he is revealed to them as he encourages them to cast their nets and he invites them to breakfast by the fire.

The resurrection is the fulfillment of all that Jesus had been teaching, showing, preaching, and promising. All of it came to pass. The Lord's Supper is our invitation to share in his resurrection. All who seek are invited to the table.

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and good that together we lift up Your name as holy, O God, Giver of New and Renewed Life! Always active, ever watchful, You keep Your promise even when we lose sight of all that you provide us. We fail to trust, we become distracted, we hurt one another and harm Your creation. Yet, You claim us as Your very own in this life and all time to come. You make a way where there is no way, through your beloved Son.

Lord Jesus, we are grateful that you walked among us to show us the way toward wholeness. Through your life, ministry, death, and resurrection, you manifest the love poured out for us and the love that we are called to share with the world.

Abiding Spirit, you provide glimpses of the Christ among us every day, joining us together as the Body of Christ.

Through your powerful love and abiding presence, draw us into Christ's presence, and may we also be present to one another as we share in this holy meal of bread and cup.

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break  
and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
that we may be one with all who share this feast,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

We join our voices as one, praying as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who is 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.**

#### Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

In our own lives, Jesus is standing on shore, asking us to put out our nets into unlikely waters so He can fill them. He is inviting us to His holy meal in the Eucharist. May we hear his voice calling us, and may we know him in the breaking of the bread.

There on the shore and here at the table, Christ offers sustenance and new life. The disciples gathered on the shore around the fire where Jesus had placed fish and bread, offering them breakfast, echoing that final night around the table with them, when he took bread, blessed it, and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

He then took up the cup, blessed the juice of the vine and gave it to the disciples, saying, Drink of the cup of life, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Pastor: Come, let's share in the feast of new and everlasting life!

**All: We are ready. The Table is set. And we remember. Your Spirit is life. Through this faithful act of communing, You join us more deeply to Yourself, to Your people here and to all Your people. In deepest gratitude, we imbibe grace!**

*All are invited to come forward to celebrate in the Lord's Supper. The bread is gluten free. You will receive the bread and then steep it in the juice that is offered, to receive the two elements together.*

### Communion of the People

#### Prayer after Communion

Holy One, we step off the shore and drop our nets to receive your bounty. May we awaken to Your invitation to enter the unknown waters, accompanied, and sustained by you, and supported by this beloved community. May we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may seek ways to tend your sheep. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



✧ **Benediction**

On each threshold, wisdom; at every doorway, love; through every entry, grace; with each beginning, peace.

*Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.*

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

Postlude: Zo Trembley



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

<http://www.tippechurch.org/>