

Third Monday of Easter Worship Service

6:30 PM on April 15, 2024

Quiet Time Prayer

God, our church is composed of people like me. We help make it what it is. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy if we are filled with these same things. Help me to be what I want my church to be. Amen.

Welcome

Greeting God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day What differences are there between *chronos* and *kairos* time?

***Hymn** “My Savior, My God”

*Call to Worship

We are here to remember Jesus the Christ.

We want to be like the One who lived by love.

We open ourselves to God’s Holy Spirit.

We look forward to what God will reveal to us.

*Prayer of Invocation

Holy God, by your Spirit reveal your radical, surprising love; come to us through your holy word, and let us hear what you are saying. Amen.

Psalm 4 #741 UMH *With sung response.*

I John 3:1-7 *New Revised Standard Version*

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Hymn “Thy Word Is a Lamp”

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Call to Confession

Let us turn to God to repent and confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

We are disturbed and distressed, O God, by the evil that surrounds us. It is hard to view many people we see as your children: murderers, abusers, those who cheat others and profit at their expense. We feel like victims. Why should we confess our sins when there is so much evil beyond our influence? Yet we know we do not abide in your love. We sin by turning away from sisters and brothers who are also beloved by you, however they may differ from us. We seek the forgiveness you promise and the health you offer.

Time of Silent Prayer

Assurance

Forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to all who repent and seek new life in Christ. The peace of God dwells in us when we honestly examine ourselves, exposing our wounds to Love's healing and our self-deceit to Love's correction. Beloved, we are accepted by God whose will for us is a joyous freedom in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

And with Jesus we pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day

What differences are there between *chronos* and *kairos* time?

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

Offering Prayer

We give with joy, Gracious God, for you have been with us even when we were unfaithful. You have kept us in safety through times of grave distress. We can call on you in all times and places, in life and in death, knowing that your strength is available to sustain us. We give now that your church may be empowered in the proclamation of good news and the transformation of human life. Amen.

***Song of Offering** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Message "Now!" Rev. Joyce Rich

***Commission and Blessing**

Put your trust in God as you face another week.

God affirms you and claims your faithfulness.

We will open our eyes to the goodness of God.

We seek to follow faithfully where Christ leads.

We have been touched by mystery and wonder.

Let us live as God's beloved children.

What we will become has not yet been revealed.

We are confident in God's will for us.

Amen. **And Amen.**

***Hymn** "Sing to the King"

Read for Next Week: John 10:11-18; I John 3:11, 16-24

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B**, Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press; **Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion; Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1**, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press.*