

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 29, 2022**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

Dennis Lesher

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

 **Invocation**

Dennis Lesher

Our Father,

you are in heaven, high and lifted up,
higher than our highest thoughts.

Holy is your name;

beside you there is no other!

You are God, and you alone!

Receive us into your kingdom—the coming kingdom—

the kingdom of your anointed Son, Jesus, whose name we bear.

Receive us, for we come to you in his name—

we pray in him and with him.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

 **Hymn 4**

How Great Thou Art

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Prayer of Confession

Dennis Lesher

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 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. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Dennis Lesher

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation As we come before God with our tithes and offerings,
Let us remember the words of Micah 6:
What does the Lord require of us?
To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with
our God. Thus we bring our money, gifts, and whole
lives as an offering to our God.

Offering

Offertory *How Deep the Father's Love For Us*
Solo – Kelly Fox

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

Prayer of Dedication

God of every good and perfect gift, our gifts are not always good, and they are always imperfect. We give, knowing that our motives are mixed and our mission is unclear. Still, we offer these efforts with boldness, knowing that your love is stronger than our impurities and imperfections. Through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

*O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths in flow
may richer, fuller be.*

*O light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.*

*O joy that seekest me through pain,
I can not close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.*

Proclaiming **God speaks to us through His Word**

Children's Sermon *Loving God, Loving Each Other* Susan Obenschain

Scripture Reading *Matthew 22:34-40*

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. ³⁵ And one of them, an expert in the law, asked a question to test him: ³⁶ "Teacher, which command in the law is the greatest?"

³⁷ He said to him, "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.** ³⁸ This is the greatest and most important command. ³⁹ The second is like it: **Love your neighbor as yourself.** ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."

Sermon

*“Loving”
Rev. Tim Latham*

Responding
We respond to God’s Word

! Hymn 61

Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

! Profession of Faith (Apostle’s Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into Hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand
Of God, the Father almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body and life everlasting.**

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

! Hymn

His Mercy is More

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts no their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many;*

*Chorus
His mercy is more. Praise the Lord,
His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev’ry morn.
Our sins, they are many;
His mercy is more. Praise the mercy is more.*

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many;*

Chorus

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins, they are many;
Chorus.*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

*This morning's Prayer Partners are
Bonnie Mecaughey, Dennis Lesher*

 **Postlude**