

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 15, 2022



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: As the sun rises in the morning,

**P: Let all creation worship God.**

L: From the highest mountain to the deepest sea,

**P: Let all creation proclaim the name of the Lord, for God alone is worthy to be praised.**

L: God alone makes all things new.

**P: All praise, glory, and honor be Yours, forever.**

L: Come! Let us worship.

**HYMN** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

UMH #89

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!**

**All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**

**Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious and loving God, You meet us where we are. We gather together from many walks of life, but we are united as one heart in the body of Christ. In our time of worship, open our ears to hear Your voice; open our eyes to see Your glory; open our minds to receive Your word; open our hearts to perceive Your presence. Amen.

**HYMN** *Marching to Zion*

UMH #733

**Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
Join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord  
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.**

Refrain:

**We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
We're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.**

**Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;  
But children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King  
May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad. (refrain)**

**The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets  
Before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields,  
Or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. (refrain)**

**Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;  
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,  
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,  
To fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. (refrain)**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (spoken in unison)

**Lord God, you alone are worthy of our love. You are our Creator and make all things new. Renew our hearts and strengthen our resolve, that we may graciously receive what You have in store for us today. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**L:** When we are thirsty, God renews our souls with living water. Drink deeply, knowing that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**P:** Amen.

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken in unison)

**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**

### **OFFERING & DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

#### **HYMN** *How Great Thou Art*

UMH #77

**O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; (refrain)**

**And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin; (refrain)**

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! (refrain)**

## **THE LESSON**

Acts 11: 1-18

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

**L: The Word of the Lord!    P: Thanks be to God!**

## **SERMON**

“God Makes All Things Clean”

Rev. Richard Baker

## **HYMN *One Bread, One Body***

UMH #620

*Refrain:*

**One Bread, one body, one Lord of all.  
One cup of blessings which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the Earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.**

**Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
Woman or man no more. (refrain)**

**Many the gifts, many the works,  
One in the Lord of all. (refrain)**

**Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
Gathered to one for all. (refrain)**

## **BENEDICTION**

L: As you leave this place, know that our worship is just beginning. Go to love each other as God loves us. In all that we see, hear, and take into our hearts, may the love of Christ be with you, now and forevermore.

**P: Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG** *Celtic Alleluia*

TFWS #2043

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Now he is living the Christ, out of the tomb he has risen.**

**He has conquered death, open heaven to all believers.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**