

April 23, 2023

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus is with you while you walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus,
People: Jesus is with us while we walk from our courts to the co-op.
Leader: We journey with Jesus on the road.
People: Jesus travels with us on Interstate 495.
Leader: And yet we could not recognize Jesus
**People: until we broke bread together,
until we shared some freshly harvested crabs.**
Leader: At once, our eyes are opened and we say:
People: Oh! Our hearts were burning for that familiar voice!
People: Yes! We had a gut feeling when we were talking story!
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen, indeed!
Leader: Praise God!
All: Alleluia!

***Hymn #386:** "The Church's One Foundation"

***Passing of the Peace**

Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 13-25 Liisa Granfors-Hunt

Anthem

Time With Young Disciples

Unison Prayer (*a poem by Helen Steiner Rice*)

**God, give us eyes to see
the beauty of the Spring,
And to behold Your majesty
in every living thing -
And may we see in lacy leaves
and every budding flower
The Hand that rules the universe
with gentleness and power -
And may this Easter grandeur
that Spring lavishly imparts
Awaken faded flowers of faith
lying dormant in our hearts,
And give us ears to hear, dear God,
the Springtime song of birds**

**With messages more meaningful
than man's often empty words
Telling harried human beings
who are lost in dark despair -
'Be like us and do not worry
for God has you in His care.'**

Sermon: "In the Unexpected"

***Hymn #337:** "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

The Community at Prayer (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

Prayer Response

Invitation to the Offering

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

**God of great gifts:
This morning we give you praise,
we give you glory,
we give you thanks!
With resurrection humming in our hearts,
our minds are tuned to your song of peace!
We joyfully present these gifts to you,
a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,
a harmony of hope for your kingdom come!
Amen.**

***Hymn #551:** "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

***Commissioning and Blessing**

***Choral Response**

***Postlude**