



**April 21, 2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**GATHERING AND PRAISE**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*No, Not One!*

Hugg

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

**Call to Worship**

Dan Ensor

L: Christ asked Peter if he loved him.

**P: Peter affirmed three times his love of the Lord.**

L: Christ asks us if we love him.

**P: We affirm our love of the Lord in our worship**

L: Christ calls us to demonstrate our love in service.

**P: Lord, help us to witness to your love in the ways in which we care for others.**

**AMEN**

**Opening Prayer**

Dan Ensor

God of power and might, let your love shine on us and through us to others. Take the blindness from our eyes and our hearts. Give us the joy of knowing and serving you in all that we say, think and do. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

**Hymn**

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

UMH 158

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**Passing the Peace of Christ**

Dan Ensor

God sends this message of joy to all people, preaching peace by Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. Let us share this holy peace with one another.

*Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of the resurrected Christ.*

**Children’s Message**

Pastor Larry

**Ministry of Music**

*Carry Me/I Need Thee Every Hour*

Choir

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Understanding**

*All Praying*

Dan Ensor

**Since we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth, make us hunger for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.**

**Scripture Lesson**

*John 21:15-25*

Dan Ensor

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

<sup>16</sup>Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

<sup>17</sup>The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” <sup>19</sup>Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

<sup>20</sup>Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) <sup>21</sup>When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

<sup>22</sup>Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.” <sup>23</sup>Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?”

<sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

<sup>25</sup> Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

**Hymn**

*The Summons*

TFWS 2130

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**Sermon**

*The Final Expectation*

Pastor Larry

**Affirmation of Faith**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker 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, dead, and buried;\*  
the third day he rose 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Larry

**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.**

**Offertory Invitation**

Dan Ensor

The Holy One has given us fish and bread for a lifetime. Let us now share from our bounty, that through our gifts, God's will may be done.

## **Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory*

*Give Me Jesus*

Spiritual

*\*Doxology*

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below:***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!***

***Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!***

***Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

Dan Ensor

**Our gracious and kind Heavenly Father, we praise you for raising Jesus Christ from the dead. With joy, we witness the miracles that you continue to perform by the power of your Holy Spirit. Help us to listen to the risen Christ, who urges us to feed his lambs and tend his sheep. May we join as a congregation to faithfully feed people who are hungry and show kindness to those in need. Use our tithes and gifts in miraculous ways for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

**Hymn**

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

TFWS 2129

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**Benediction**

Pastor Larry

**Choral Benediction**

*He Lives*

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!*

*He walks with me and talks with me*

*Along life's narrow way.*

*He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!*

*You ask me how I know he lives?*

*He lives within my heart.*

**Postlude**

*May You Run and Not Be Weary*

Isa. 40:31

**COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING**

*Come, Christians, join to sing:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
loud praise to Christ our King:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice,  
before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice.  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*2 Come, lift your hearts on high:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend;  
to us he'll condescend;  
his love shall never end:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*3 Praise yet the Lord again:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore  
his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

## **THE SUMMONS**

*Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown  
In you and you in me?*

*Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
In you and you in me?*

*Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in me?*

*Will you love the 'you' you hide  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in me?*

*Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you*

*And never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me.*

### ***I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS***

*I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus -  
no turning back, no turning back.*

*2 The world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me -  
no turning back, no turning back.*

*3 Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow—  
no turning back, no turning back.*