



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – May 2, 2021 Fifth Sunday of Easter

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

Meditation

Gabriel Dupont

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE
PURPLE BAGS

FIRST CHIME

INTROIT

Lift High the Cross
Sanctuary Singers

CRUCIFER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come to praise God, all you faithful people!

People: Praise to God, who is as near as our next breath.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 396

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

HOLY MANNA

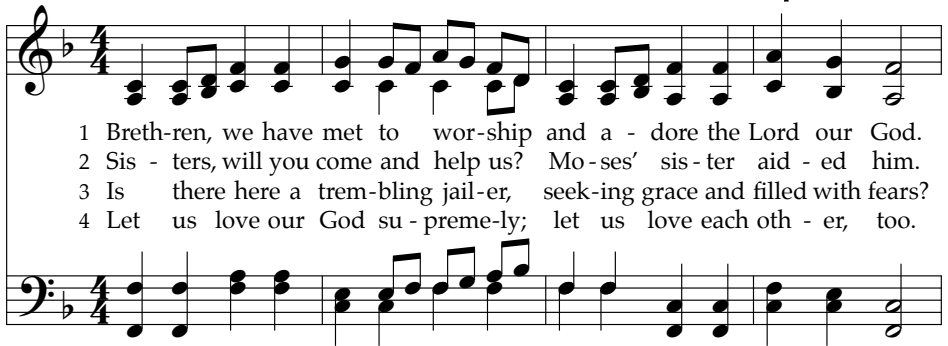
*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Becki Walden

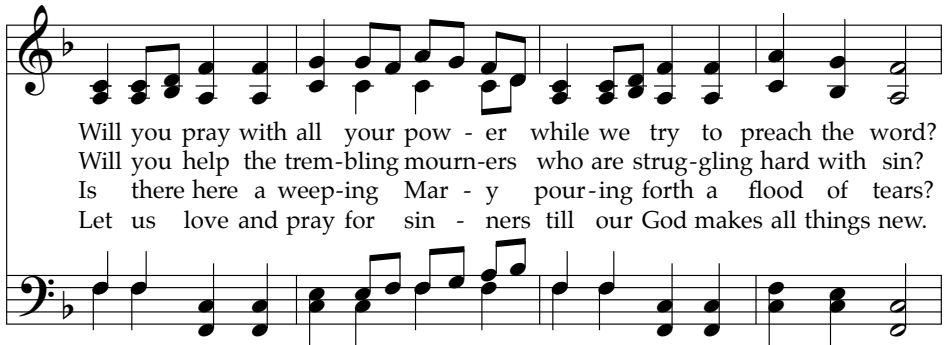
Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed may be of you. O God, you pour out the Spirit of grace and love. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

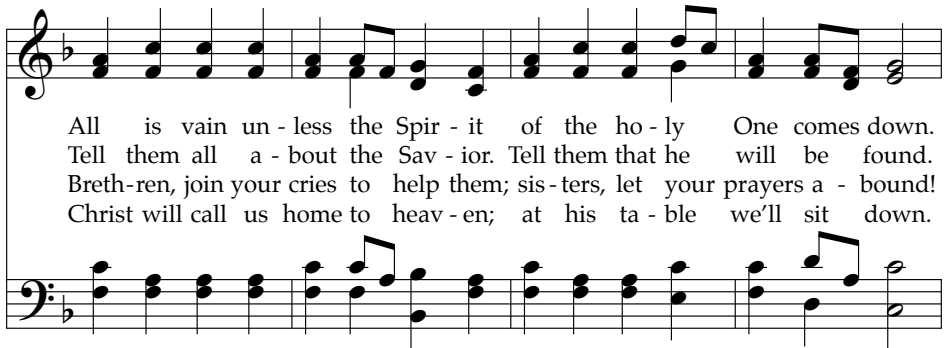
Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 396



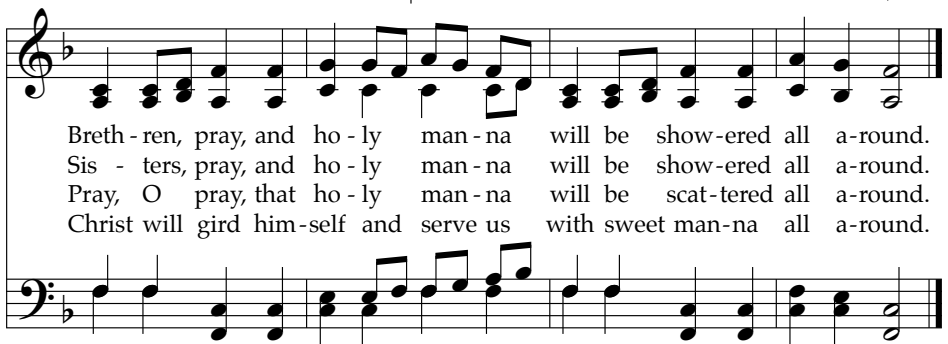
1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a - dore the Lord our God.
 2 Sis - ters, will you come and help us? Mo-ses' sis-ter aid - ed him.
 3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
 4 Let us love our God su - preme-ly; let us love each oth - er, too.



Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word?
 Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?
 Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?
 Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the ho - ly One comes down.
 Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior. Tell them that he will be found.
 Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis-ters, let your prayers a - bound!
 Christ will call us home to heav - en; at his ta - ble we'll sit down.



Breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man-na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man-na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Pray, O pray, that ho - ly man-na will be scat-tered all a-round.
 Christ will gird him-self and serve us with sweet man-na all a-round.

This hymn comes out of the early 19th-century southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12-13). As its name shows, the five-note tune was created for this text.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Lord of Heavenly Multitudes, we confess that we are a spiritually lazy people. We lack endurance in the race of life. You both promise and model suffering as the way of the faithful but we insist that our faith should shield us from all difficulty. Forgive us when we are self-centered and entitled; forgive us when we expect special treatment because we believe in Jesus; forgive us when we fall away from you instead of recognizing the opportunity to know you more intimately in times of suffering. (silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

To this peace we are called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

*As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

We Proclaim God's Word

DISCOVERY TIME

Sean Smith

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré

Sanctuary Singers

O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation, Eternal Light of the earth and the sky, on this thy holy day, we kneel in adoration. O Savior, turn on us thy loving eye! Send down on us the fire of thy grace all-consuming, whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, and rouse our slumbering souls with radiance all-illuminating, that they may waken thy mercy to tell! O Christ bestow thy blessing on us, we implore thee, who here are gathered on penitent knee. Accept the hymns we offer to thine everlasting glory and these thy gifts we return unto Thee!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-40 (pg. 127)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

Help Us Accept Each Other (hymn 754)

Doreen Potter, Fred Kaan

Jennifer Coffman, mezzo-soprano

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7-21 (pg. 241)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Love's Perfection

Rev. John C. McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

Amen

DANISH AMEN

Sanctuary Singers

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments

Thomas Tallis

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

*PRESENTATION HYMN

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 316

Where Charity and Love Prevail

TWENTY-FOURTH

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Carillon-Sortie

Henri Mulet

Today

Picnic in the Parking Lot | After 11:00 a.m. Service

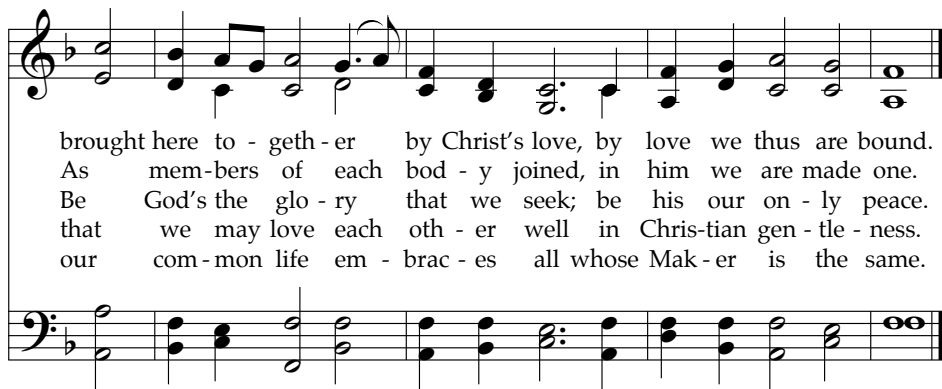
Join us for a picnic on the church grounds after service! We've been gone from each other for a while and this is the perfect opportunity to reconnect with people you may not have seen over the last year.

Bring your picnic blankets, chairs, and anything else you think you might need. Coolers of soda and bottled water will be available. If you ordered a box lunch, those will also be available after service.

Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a - mong us be un-known; let all con - ten-tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

Upcoming Events

KirkNight To-go – Wednesday, May 5 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.

You don't want to miss out on the KirkNight meal this week! **Order by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the latest.** To order, call, text or email Jenn Snow at 405-408-3608 or jenn@junebugcatering.com.

Meals will be available for pick-up from 4:30-5:30 p.m. by the ramp behind the kitchen.

Family Meal for 4-6: \$20 | Dessert \$5.00 | **Meal for 2:** \$10 | Dessert \$2.50

Menu: Chicken Enchiladas with Black Beans and Cilantro Lime Rice with Sopapilla Cheesecake

Yoga – Wednesday, May 5 | 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sometimes I *bend over backwards* to convince my friends to come to yoga class. It's only because it's so much fun! Join us on Wednesday evenings for our free yoga class. If you already attend, be sure to invite a friend. Any and all are welcome!

Choir and Handbell Rehearsals – Wednesday, May 5 & Thursday, May 6

The Sanctuary Singers and Sanctuary Ringers will begin making music together again in May!

After a long hiatus due to the pandemic, rehearsals will resume: the choir will rehearse Wednesday evenings beginning May 5, and the handbells will resume on May 6. Participants will wear masks and practice social distancing.

If you haven't sung in the choir before, or if you've never rung handbells, this would be a great time to give it a try! For more information, contact Puffer (puffer@fpcokc.org or 405-605-4458).

Reserve the Third – The Urban Mission | Saturday, May 8 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Reserve the Third will be on the 2nd Saturday of May rather than the 3rd, which was already taken. Hopefully, we will see some new faces as well and consider having a picnic lunch afterward at Will Rogers Park. Contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@pnfmc.com) to RSVP or ask questions!

Mother's Day – Sunday, May 9 | 11:00 a.m. Service

Reminder for children and forgetful fathers, May 9 is Mother's Day! We look forward to celebrating moms and motherhood this Sunday.

Presbyterian Women

Priscilla Circle — Tuesday, May 11 | 10:00 a.m.

In Watchorn Hall at the church. Priscilla Circle has decided to continue meeting throughout the summer months.

Phoebe Circle — Tuesday, May 11 | 1:30 p.m.

In the Reception Room at the church. Dorothy Hays will host. Birthday Offering will be accepted.

Abigail Circle — Tuesday, May 18 | 6:30 p.m.

At Darci McKinnon's house.

Organ Recital — Friday, May 14 | 7:00 p.m.

You're invited to new member Solena Rizzato's organ recital on May 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary! Solena will play music from Buxtehude, Wammes, and more.