

Sunday, May 25, 2025,
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome
Family Life and Work
Family Celebrations
Lighting of the Christ Candle:
Acknowledgment of the Land:

Introit: Welcome, Happy Morning

VU 161 vs 1

**Welcome, happy morning! age to age shall say;
hell, today is vanquished, heaven is won today:
come then, True and Faithful, now fulfil your word;
this is your third morning: rise, O buried Lord!**

**Welcome, happy morning! age to age shall say;
hell, today is vanquished, heaven is won today!**

Call to Worship:

One: Let God's grace and mercy be known all around the world!

All: O God, let all the peoples praise you!

One: Let everyone be glad and sing with joy!

All: O God, let all the peoples praise you!

One: God, our God has blessed us!

All: O God, let all the peoples praise you in every corner of creation!

Opening Hymn: In the Bulb There Is a Flower

VU 703

- 1 In the bulb there is a flower;
 in the seed, an apple tree;
 in cocoons, a hidden promise:
 butterflies will soon be free!
 In the cold and snow of winter
 there's a spring that waits to be,
 unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.**
- 2 There's a song in every silence,
 seeking word and melody;
 there's a dawn in every darkness,
 bringing hope to you and me.
 From the past will come the future;**

**what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

Prayer of Approach

Wondrous God, in you we know the power of redemption. In our sometimes shadowed days, you stand with us and among us. As we move through the joys and sorrows of this life, uphold us with knowledge of that final morning when we will share in Christ's resurrection, filled with true life and forever free to be your people.

Hear us now as we say again the words which you have taught us to say,

The Lord's Prayer (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**

First Reading: Acts 16: 9-15

Children's Time:

Gradual Hymn: See a New Heaven

VU 713 vs 1,3,4

**I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.**

**1 There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,
 yielding her fruit, firm in her root,
 the Tree of Life will be.**

**I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.**

**3 There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.
 There where the night, bearing new light,
 reveals the promise of love.**

**I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.**

**4 There, there where we work with the love of
 healing hands.
 Labour we must, true to our trust
 to build a promised new land.**

Gospel Reading: John 14: 23-29

We Listen

Meditation: "Not as the World Gives"

Musical Offering: You Raise Me Up

We Respond

Offertory: **O Give Thanks**

**O give thanks, O give thanks,
O give thanks unto the Lord
for he is gracious
and his mercy endureth,
endureth forever more**

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication:

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Closing Hymn: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

VU 232 vs 1,3,4

**1 Joyful, joyful we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**

**3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.**

**4 Mortals join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.**

Benedictions and Commissioning

Choral Benediction: An Easter Benediction

**Hosanna in the highest
strains the church on earth can raise
The highest heav'ns in which he reigns
shall give him nobler praise
Amen**