

5th Sunday in Easter

April 24th, 2016

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *The Church's One Foundation* *arr. Mansfield*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *Blessed Are They*

+CALL TO WORSHIP *from* Isaiah 49 & Luke 13

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: The Lord has protected us and given us a covenant to be called the people of God.

All: **“You shall not hunger nor thirst,” says the Lord our God, “I will lead and guide you by springs of water.”**

One: The promise of God is that God’s people shall come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the Kingdom of God. Some who are last will be first, and some who are first will be last.

All: **Let us sing for joy to the heavens and let us exult in all the earth. Let us break forth into song, for the Lord has comforted his people with compassion and shall provide for them in love.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE *In Christ There Is No East or West* #440

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Just and Loving God, you are even-handed in your justice and promise us that in the day of judgement you will not play favorites. We confess to you that we are not, and have not been, so fair in our dealings with others. We are often overly impressed by the rich and powerful, excusing things in them that we would condemn and find repulsive in the poor and ignorant. Forgive our superficiality. Send us your Holy Spirit that we may learn not to neglect the needy and the oppressed, just because we think they have nothing to offer us. Help us offer them true friendship. We pray in the name of the One who is a friend to sinners. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

+RESPONSE *In Christ There Is No East or West* #440

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Ghost

We praise your name throughout the earth joining with the heavenly host!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Come, Come Everybody Worship* *Children’s Choir*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Afterward, children ages 5 thru 3rd grade may go to Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) while children in 4th grade and older are invited to worship with their families.

+PREPARATORY HYMN *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* #367

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 p. 566 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Hiding In The Shadow* *Sorenson*

GOSPEL READING James 2:1-13 p. 202 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED **Tim Reynolds**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Lord, I Want To Be a Christian* *arr. Berry*

+Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* #592

+Prayer of Dedication

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, or every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

+ SENDING HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* #358

(Sung to the tune MERLE’S TUNE - #602)

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Let The Beauty*

+POSTLUDE *Love Lifted Me* *Smith*

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Isaac Short
- the acolytes are Madison Counts and Kaylie Cornelius
- the bell ringer is J W Hortenstine
- the W.O.W. leaders are Sandy Smith and Jill Childress
- the Little W.O.W. leaders are Jamie & John Hortenstine
- the nursery volunteers are Jan Hardman and Karen Mason
- the sound board tech is Austin Patrick

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION Elders: Matt Crum & Joey Lamie

VISITORS: We are delighted to have you with us this morning and hope you feel at home. Please let us know a bit about you by filling in your information in the Friendship Register this morning. **A Nursery is available** for infants and children through age 3. If you need directions an usher can assist you.

HEARING DEVICES are available for the hearing impaired from an usher.

OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES is on *The Book of James*. James is a letter written to encourage and help Christians across the world to face the challenge of faith. It has been called the “Proverbs of the New Testament” because it is filled with practical advice about how to live lives of faith as individuals and as a church. This sermon series will take us back to the basics as we look at the core essentials we need to incorporate into our lives of discipleship.

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS:

Apr 24	James 2:1-13	<i>James: No Favorites</i>
May 1	James 2:14-26	<i>James: Faith and Works</i>
May 8	James 3:1-18	<i>James: Taming the Tongue</i>
May 15	James 4:1-17	<i>James: Faith and Humility</i>

INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A LITURGIST? We are looking to expand our pool of liturgists and would love to have YOU join. Pastor Tim holds a training class for all new liturgists so that you will be prepared to serve. If you have ever thought about serving as a liturgist, now is a great time to start. Contact Pastor Tim if you are interested. He will schedule the training class once we have enough folks signed up.

OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS we are going to be updating our records so we can publish a new Church Directory (the non-pictorial kind!). Are you a new member, has your address or phone number changed, do you have a new addition to your family, are you receiving email updates from the church or has your email address changed, does the church have your birth date so that we can help celebrate your special day, if not, there is a form on the table in the Narthex that you can take to update all of your information. Once completed, you can put it in the offering plate, place in Donna’s mailbox, or drop it by the church anytime. We will compare our records to the form and make sure we have all your information correct.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH Elders: Mimi Hull & Alice Rainey

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Faith in Action’s NEW LIFT THRIFT SHOP, 246 West Main Street, needs more volunteers to sort, prepare, price and put out donations on Fridays and Saturdays, anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Call Sharon Sipperley at 276.525.4220 if able to serve. Thanks!!!

THANKS TO ALL who worked and donated to Faith in Action during March. If you are interested in how to help, you may bring canned food (place in basket at the stairs), donate money (FiA in the memo line), and/or serve during our next turn on May 15 – May 21. Thanks for your continued faith in action!

