

# Bulletin for Worship

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

### May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### Call to Worship

*Carol Wetzel*

Sing to the Lord a new song of hope and rejoicing! Praise God for wonderful acts of mercy and kindness! We gather to celebrate that God's blessings are for all people.

**We will sing and celebrate for we have been truly blessed. We come together to worship and enjoy the peace that Christ Jesus has offered to everyone.**

#### Hymn Glory to God Hymnal #435 *There's A Wideness in God's Mercy*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,  
we would gladly trust God's Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving  
for the goodness of our Lord.

*TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt.*

*MUSIC (IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7.D): Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906*

#### Prayer of Adoration

#### Prayer of Confession

Jesus, friend and brother, you taught us to abide in your generous love, for it completes our lives and gives us joy; you ask us to love others as you have loved us, for it brings your creation to fruition. We sometimes struggle to love the people in our lives as you have loved us. Forgive us, we pray, and teach us your love again. Amen.

*Take a few moments for your own silent confession*

#### Assurance of Hope and Forgiveness

Long ago Jesus said to his disciples, "I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from God. You did not choose me, but I chose you!" Jesus speaks these words to us today. Jesus forgives us and chooses us to be his friends, sharing his great work of love.

**Hallelujah! We have been forgiven. Amen.**

## **The Presbyterian Hymnal #579 “Gloria Patri”**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

*Public Domain*

*Glory Be to the Father*

*TEXT: Trad. liturgical text. Composer: Henry W. Greatorex (1851)*

### **Scripture Readings: 1 John 5:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup> This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

### **John 15:9-17**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

**Message:** “Jesus’ Friends”

**Prayer**

### **Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

#### **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.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned 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.

### **Sending Hymn Glory to God Hymnal #309 *Come, Great God of All the Ages***

Come, great God of all the ages;

make your earthly mission known;

speak through every deed

and person;

let your way and will be shown.

Guide the church

to true commitment;

give direction now, we ask;

fit us for the work of building;  
dedicate us to the task.

Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit,  
sure foundation, cornerstone;  
help us form the church eternal;  
may your vision be our own.  
Send a message to each follower;  
lead all people to your way;  
urge us to strong faith and action  
as we build the church today.

Come, great Spirit, in and with us,  
tune our ears to hear your call;  
through the moving  
of your presence,  
let redeeming love recall  
Ministry in dedication,  
love embodied in our deeds;  
challenge us to do your bidding,  
see your purpose, fill all needs.

Come, O come, in celebration,  
household of the one true God;  
in commitment and rejoicing  
let us go where Christ has trod;  
As we act in faith and reverence,  
let us, Lord, the future see;  
place us in the church triumphant,  
now and for eternity.

*TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1987; © 1990 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.*

*Used by Permission. MUSIC (ABBOT'S LEIGH 8.7.8.7.D): Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941; © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by Permission. First Presbyterian Church, FDL OneLicense.net License A-730666*

## **Benediction**