

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 28, 2024

Bonnie Jacque, Pastor

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Creation Joy

SUNG INTROIT Come and Fill Our Hearts

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
You alone O Lord are holy,
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come to the vineyard of God.

MANY: We seek Christ, the vine of great love.

One: Drink from the waters of life.

MANY: We live in the light of God's grace.

One: Come to the vineyard of God.

MANY: All are welcome here.

***OPENING PRAYER** God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

In the Bulb There Is A Flower

#433

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection,

that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE

**Lord, listen to your children praying
Lord send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

MANY: And also with you.

CHOIR

Love is the Touch of Intangible Joy
Tune: Slane (traditional Irish melody)
Lyrics: Alison M. Robertson, Iona

SCRIPTURE READINGS Ps 22: 25-31; 1 John 4: 7-21; John 15: 1-8

***HYMN** We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky #563

MEDITATION A Good Pruning

PASTORAL PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF LOVE

screen

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY** Halle, halle, hallelujah,
Halle, halle, hallelujah,
Halle, halle, hallelujah,
Hallelujah, hallelujah. Repeat X1

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Generous God, may the gifts we return to you cause your name to be celebrated among the nations. May the lives that we live cause your name to be celebrated in all generations. May our offerings be signs of our praise to you,

forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN** Thank You God for Sisters, Brothers #397

***BENEDICTION**

One: Beloved children of God, love one another well.

MANY: We will abide in Christ's generous love.

One: Be born in the Spirit of grace.

MANY: We will live in the fullness of hope.

One: Grow into branches bearing the fruit of love: peace, joy, hope, faith.

MANY: We will remember that the greatest harvest is the harvest of love.

***SUNG BENEDICTION**

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear, good riddance!

Hello Lord, Hello sun!

I am one of the Easter people! My new life has begun!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning

From Now On!

POSTLUDE

*If rising from a seated position is an issue for you, please remain seated. The phrase, "Stand in body or spirit as you are able" is intended to give you permission to do so without embarrassment.

Congregational Response to each prayer request is: **Your prayer is our prayer. Your joy is our joy.**

Credits: CCLI #48321379, Worship Elements by Mary J. Scifries ministrymatters.com; re-worship.blogspot.com ~ Bruce Prewer and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page.

Reminders

05/07 - Seniors at Noon

05/12 - Mother's Day

05/13 - Council at 6 PM

05/16 - Women's Guild at noon

05/19 - Pentecost Sunday and Last Day of Sunday School

05/23 - Coffee with Bonnie at Java Dancer in Richfield at 10 AM

Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits: Ron S., Joyce O'K, Ken S. and Isabel H.

Birthdays: Steve M. celebrates today.

Anniversaries: Jay and Heather L on Monday

Greeters for This Week: Connie J. and Bernice D.

Greeters for Next Week: Roy and Carol K; Jeff and Tracy M.

Liturgist for This Week: Alice M.

Liturgist for Next Week: Bernie C.

Following worship, you are invited for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.