

COMMUNION ORDER OF SERVICE

JULY 2, 2023

Welcome

Hymn #449 sung twice

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!

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Readings:

Luke 22. 7-20

7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, 'Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.' ⁹They asked him, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for it?' ¹⁰'Listen,' he said to them, 'when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹and say to the owner of the house, "The teacher asks you, 'Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' " ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.' ¹³So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

14 When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' ¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.'

Luke 24. 13-35

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' ¹⁹He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' ²⁵Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Amen.

Sermon/Meditation

A CHRISTIAN CREED BASED ON THE APOSTLES' CREED
FROM: IONA, SCOTLAND
Modified for AHPC

**We Believe in God above us,
Maker and sustainer of all that lives,
Of sun, moon and stars,
Of water, air, and earth,
Of male and female,
All genders, colours and cultures.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
Born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor.
He was tortured and nailed to a tree.
He bore the suffering of others, but died himself forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
And his reign will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
The Holy Spirit of transforming flame,
Life-Giving breath of the church,
Energy of healing, justice and forgiveness,
Source of resurrection and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Solo: "At this Table"
by Idina Menzel & Jonas Myrin, sung by Erin Stone

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again! Hallelujah!**

Our Father ...

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer after Communion:

Thank you for feeding us in this meal, O God. Thank you for coming to be with us and among us, O Christ, and for giving your life to us so that we may take you in, so that you may be formed and grown in us as we eat and drink, so that we may become ever more your hands, feet and heart in the world. Thank you, O Holy Spirit, for resurrecting Christ in us and for calling us, broken and imperfect as we are, to become your healing and transforming presence in the world. We will be blessed by the fellowship we share with one another as your energy flows in us, between us and through us out into the world.

Amen.

Hymn #556 - Now let us from this table rise

1. Now let us from this table rise renewed in body, mind, and soul;
with Christ we die and live again, whose selfless love has made us whole.
2. With minds alert, upheld by grace, to spread the Word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ, at one with all in hope and need.
3. To fill each human house with love, it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do we humbly pledge ourselves to share.
4. Then grant us grace, companion God, to choose again the pilgrim way
and help us to accept with joy the challenge of tomorrow's day.

Benediction