

Sharing the Elements

*The bread is gluten-free and the cup offers non-alcoholic juice.
Please come forward as the servers turn toward your section, receive a piece of the loaf,
dip it in the cup, and partake of this holy meal. You may then return to your seat.*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

People: We give thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us at your table
by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.
Strengthen our faith,
increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world in courage and peace,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

***Closing Hymn**

My Song Is Love Unknown

GtG #209

***Blessing**

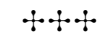
Postlude



Leaders in Worship

Rev. Dr. Leanna Fuller

Rebecca Reeder



Rev. Kendra Buckwalter Smith, *Director of the Worship Program*

Michael P. Frank III, *Chapel Musician*

Ciera (Cici) James, *Audio Visual Technician*



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

A Service of Word and Sacrament

Hicks Memorial Chapel

Thursday, April 11, 2019

GATHERING

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, Beloved,
for the Great Giver has restored your fortunes –

People: Let us tell of abundance as we shout with joy!

Leader: Come, Growers,
for the Creator has brought up rivers in the desert –

People: Let us declare our praise as we plant our fields!

Leader: Come, Pilgrims,
for the Righteous One has set a path through the sea –

People: Let us rejoice as we make our journey!

Leader: Come, People of God,
for the Holy One has done great things for us!

People: Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Invocation**

Leader: Come to this sanctuary, this house, this home, Holy Christ,
and let us receive you with lavish welcome.

You are the Restorer of our fortunes,
the Promise of new life –

We pour out our praise to you.

Fill this room with your Spirit:
the sound of wind, the warmth of flame, the scent of perfume
and fill our hearts with your compassion,

Not just in this time and place,
but in all times and in all places,
so that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us,
we may also embody the love you give to all.

People: Amen.

***Opening Song**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

GtG #435

*please rise in body and/or spirit

***Call to Confession**

Leader: If we ask God to restore us to the way we have been,
then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give.
God is not content simply to return or restore us to former things.
Instead, God seeks to give the gift of resurrection—
a new and abundant life.
With confidence in God's generosity, we confess our sins
and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ.

***Prayer of Confession**

***People:* Purifying God,
we grow comfortable with the way things are
in our lives, in the church, and in the world.
We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ,
for you overturn our notions of power and protocol.
Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others.
Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us.
Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others.
Help us bend our lives toward your own life
of self-giving and sacrifice.
Fill us, our homes and churches,
and the whole world with the abundant love of Christ
until all are made new. In Christ's name, we pray.**

Silence is kept for Personal Prayers of Confession

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous.
Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ,
who has made us his own.
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
***People:* In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

***The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
***People:* And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: John 12:1-8

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

HOLY COMMUNION

Song of Preparation

Your Only Son

GtG #518

The Invitation

Communion Prayer

The music for the responses in the Communion Prayer can be found
in *The Faith We Sing*, #2257.

Leader (singing): The Lord be with you.

***People* (singing): 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 our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy God, our loving Creator,
close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star ...
... we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices
with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere, saying:

***People* (singing): Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest...
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest . . .**

Leader: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion ...
... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

***People* (singing): Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest. . . .**

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, come ...
... and in all for whom Christ died.

***People* (singing): Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest . . .**

***The Lord's Prayer**

Ecumenical Version

***People:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**