

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

May 2, 2021

5th Sunday of Easter



Preparation “And Jesus’ own great act of forgiveness has freed us and has procreated in us the power for forgiveness which is the power to transform the world. For us this is grace.”

A Spirituality Of Wholeness, The New Look at Grace” Bill Huebsch

Prelude

Variations on Holy Manna
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Charles Callahan

Greeting and Announcements of the Church

Call to Worship:

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

One: We have not seen the risen Christ,

All: **But we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.**

One: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

All: **But we have seen him in the faces
of everyone whose love encourages us.**

One: We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

All: **But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.**

Prayer of Confession:

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: God of gentle rains and warm sun, God who encourages growth;

All: **we are creatures who sometimes grow quickly,
and sometimes get stuck.**

One: God of freedom, of liberation, of binding ropes being cut;

All: **we are bound in ways we don't always understand or recognize.**

One: God of exodus and exile and homecoming,

God who calls us to leave where we are and come home;

All: **help us to have the courage to make the journey
and to trust in the path.**

One: God of health and healing,

God who wants us to be made whole;

All: **we come as people who are wounded in body and in spirit,
people who seek healing.**

One: God who has laid out a way for us to live,
who has given us rules for living in community;

All: **we come as people who sometimes go astray,
people who stretch the rules.**

(Silent prayers of confession)

Promise of the Gospel

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: God of Grace,
we come as people who live through that Grace.

All: **And so we praise you for the growth,
we rejoice in being set free,
we dance along the path that leads us home,
we give thanks for the healing we have received,
we relax in the knowledge that we are forgiven,
and we live as people of Grace. Amen.**

Hymn #509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly, vs. 1-3
[Holy Manna]
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Children's Sermon

"It's You I Like"

Dr. Connor Koppin

Scripture Lesson

Acts 4: 32-35; John 20: 30-31

Sermon

"*Transformed By Grace*"

Rev. Peggy Huston

Affirmation of Faith

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

We are to have a good hope for all.

**And although God knows who are his, and here and there mention
is made of the small number of elect, yet we must hope well of all,
and not rashly judge any (person) to be a reprobate.**

**For Paul says to the Philippians, "I thank my God for you all . . .
because of your fellowship in the Gospel, being persuaded that
He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion
at the day of Jesus Christ. It is also right that I have
this opinion of you all" (Phil 1:3)**

The Second Helvetic Confession 5.055

Special Music

The Lord's My Shepherd
Dr. Connor Koppin, Pianist

Bob Chilcott

The Offering and Minute for Mission

Doug Paterson

Holy Communion

Rev. Peggy Huston

Please have bread and juice, or some grain and liquid, prepared so that we can partake of communion together.

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory, vs. 1-4
[CWM Rhondda]

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Benediction

Postlude

God of Grace

[CWM Rhondda)

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Setting: Paul Manz

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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston, Interim Minister

Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, Assistant Pastor

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Dr. Connor Koppin, Choir Director

Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director

Sue Schnackenberg, CE Director for Youth & Children

Edward Ennen, Sexton

Anna Thiel, Office Manager

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