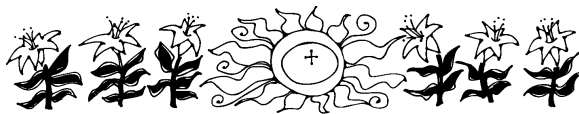


Faith United Methodist Church

April 25, 2021



Fourth Sunday Of Easter

GATHERING

“From the very first day, we were there, taking it all in—we heard it with our own ears, saw it with our own eyes, verified it with our own hands. The Word of Life appeared right before our eyes; we saw it happen! And now we’re telling you in most sober prose that what we witnessed was, incredibly, this: The infinite Life of God himself look shape before us.”

1 John 1:1-2

Welcome

Opening Prayer

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known by announcing peace and calling us to repent and forgive: break our lives open so are transformed through the mystery of resurrection; through the one who showed us the way, Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

Alleluia, Alleluia

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.

He is the King of creation.

Refrain

Prayer of Illumination

Speak to us, Risen Christ, along this road: explain the Scriptures, break open the bread of life, and **set our hearts on fire with your love. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

1 John 3: 3:16–24

⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than

our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of God, for the People of God. **Thanks Be to God. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

John 10:11-18

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you Lord Christ. Amen.

Children’s Time

Special Music

Witness

Love & Sacrifice

Musical Response

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring

Joys & Concerns

Prayer of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. You are the Way, the Truth and the Life, as your children, draw us all closer to you in our daily life and work. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the bread and the wine as your body in the world help us work for justice, freedom, and peace in all that we do. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the light of the world, shine through us as we love and care for the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the Good Shepherd, guide & protect all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; comfort the sick, the friendless, and the needy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the Door, so help your Church, all who proclaim the Gospel, our Bishop Scott, our Superintendent Romonica, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, for all who serve you to welcome your people. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the Resurrection and the Life, so grant eternal life to those who have died and hope for all who grieve. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In silence, we name our own needs and the needs of others... Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For your mercy is great so we gather all these prayers that have been spoken and those written on our hearts to you through the prayer, your son taught to us saying:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Offering & Prayer for the Gifts of the Community

Hymn

My Hope Is Built

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.***

Benediction

Go forth from this time and place, knowing Jesus grants us love and sends out to practice that love in all that we say and do. May we live into this holy calling with those we encounter this week. May the blessing of God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Laura Arceneaux
 Margaret Arceneaux
 Paul Arceneaux, Jr.
 Sidney Arceneaux
 Kim Craigen Ard
 Lucian Adams
 Dolores Anderson
 Vee Battaglio
 Brenda Bermaster
 Lloyd Betar
 Mary Bevil
 Roland Blanchard
 Bonnie Blankenship
 Donna Suppa Bolton
 Jo Bordeaux
 Pat Borel
 Glenda Brooks
 Jean Brooks
 Kent Broussard
 Maxine Broussard
 Ann Campbell
 Norma Campbell
 Robert & Roxie Castilaw
 Jared Castolenia
 Matthew Cerda
 Tana Champeau
 Rebecca Chance
 Billie Cherry
 Kim Wilber Conn
 Derick Cooper
 Kyle & Beth Craigen
 Dakota Crutchfield
 Jimmy & Emily Davis
 Bobbye Dean
 Mary Delafosse
 Tammy Dufour

Prayer List

Julie Duplichan
 Keven Dupre
 Marli Dupuy
 Joe Floyd
 Sheila Frederick
 Lorene Green
 Rachel Grimmatt
 Robert Hargraves
 Connie Hebert
 MaryJo Hebert
 Susie Hesselteine
 Edna & Raymond Jones
 Selwyn Jones
 Alice Kethley
 Kristi Key
 Bud Landry
 Clyde Landry
 Dora Mae LeDaux
 Fred Ledesma
 Alice & Louis Loftin
 Jillaine Lucas
 Orianna Marchand
 Matt Markos
 Barbara Martin
 Randy & Shannon Mayfield
 John McGee
 Gary & Vicky Minaldi
 Linda Meyers
 Ron & Michelle Mueller
 Joyce Murphy
 Family of Eric Neal
 Arnold Northcut
 Kelly Simmons Owens
 Jimmy & Ruby Parker
 Melva Phillips
 Harlan Phipps

Mercedes Pierson
Family of Justin Plake
 John Pool
 Kenny Puckett
 Charles Quinn
 Regina Rahman-Wang
Family of Mike Ramirez
 Beverly Reese
 Buddy Renkema
 Nikki Castilaw Rice
 Edward River
 Randy & Darlene Rivett
 Floyd Roche
 Ezekiel Romero
 Joann Savelle
 H.G. Schonenberg
 Shawna Shaw
 Loretta Shearer
 Brooke Simon
 Harriet Simpson
 The Smith Family
 James Sowell
 Kim Streed
 Bob Taylor
 Sadina Hammock Ward
 Ronald Weeks
 Mary Alice Weitzel
 Herschel Williams
 Mary Rose Williams
 Gail Wright
 Greta Zeralsky



faithfannettumc@gmail.com + 409.794.1121 (office) + 832.792.4951 (Pastor)

We are called to be:

Transformed by God's love, Christ's sacrifice and the Spirit's work in our lives.

Engaged with all of God's children from the small to the tall, the near and the far.

Celebrate, worship & praise God as we care for each other.

Share the Good News of God's love in our thoughts, words and deeds.

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