

Massanutten Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

10:30 a.m.

We Gather at God's Call

Introit

Pouring of the Water

Prelude

Reflection on "*The Valley of Peace*"

-Whitworth

Greeting

*Call to Worship (*responsively*)

Betsy Hay, Worship Leader

We come together to worship the living God,

who knit us together when we were yet unnamed,

and welcomes us with a parent's embrace.

We have come to worship the almighty God,

who searches us and knows our hearts,

and still loves us completely.

We have come to worship the eternal God,

who seeks us wherever we are

and shepherds us with a guiding hand.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

***Praise the Lord! God's glories show, Alleluia!
saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!
angels round the throne above, Alleluia!
all who see and share God's love. Alleluia!***

***Earth to heaven exalt the strain, Alleluia!
Send it, heaven, to earth again, Alleluia!
Age to age, God's mercies trace, Alleluia!
Praise God's providence and grace! Alleluia!***

***Strings and voices, hands and hearts, Alleluia!
in the concert, bear your parts, Alleluia!
All that breathes, your Lord adore, Alleluia!
singing praise forevermore, Alleluia!***

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Lord, you have searched and known us.

**You know when we cultivate kindness
and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world.
You know, too, when our words sow seeds of discord
and our actions choke out generosity and grace.**

**When we produce more weed than wheat,
forgive us.**

**As we wait with eager longing
for your reign to be revealed in our midst,
plant within us gifts of love and mercy,
so that we might live as children of the kingdom
and bear fruit that enriches your harvest.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

My fellow children of God, do not fear,
for our God is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
God's hand shall lead us and hold us fast.
So be reconciled with God and at peace with one another.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

*Response

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Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name

Come let us praise the living God,

Joyfully sing to our Savior. (Refrain)

We Gather Around God's Word

Time with the Children

Hannah Altman

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 44:6-8, Romans 8:12-25

Sermon

Pastor Keith Phillips

Affirmation of Faith From *A Declaration of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and in ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
From the house of bondage.**

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

Invitation to the Offering

Special Music *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* - Carter

***My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteous;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.***

***When darkness hides His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.***

*When He shall come with sound, O may I then in Him be found:
Dressed in His righteous alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

We Are Sent to the World

***Hymn**

For the Beauty of the Earth (v. 1-4)

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*For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:*

Refrain:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light: (Refrain)*

*For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,*

*for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: (Refrain)*

*For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Refrain)*

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

*For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*