### Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Let those who struggle with sickness and sorrow know your victory over the powers of sin and death. Surround and sustain them with your love. By your grace, O God, *raise us from death to life.* 

Life-giving God, we pray for mothers . . . We give thanks for those who have nurtured, fed, comforted and cared for us. We mourn with mothers who have lost children and children without mothers, We weep for those who face infertility and miscarriages. May all know the glory of new life. By your grace, O God, *raise us from death to life.* 

Eternal God, show forth in us and in our world the good news of your saving power and love, so that all may believe and have life in you; through Jesus Christ, who is risen indeed. *Amen.* 

### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, ...

### Music

INVITATION TO OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION Joshua Allen

Jan Pennal

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

— Sending —

### **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

May the love of the holy triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—one Lord, Mother of us all—abide with you forever. *Alleluia!* 

Now go forth in Jesus' name, remembering his new commandment to love one another, just as he has loved us. *Amen.* 

### Postlude

Joshua Allen

# Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences

Rev. Michele R. Goff	Pastor
Joshua Allen	Music Director
Stefen Kane	Admin Assist.





# Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021



Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Liturgist, Jan Pennal

Joshua Allen

Joshua Allen

Service for the Lord's Day — Gathering —

WELCOME

### INTROIT

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

We gather to worship as people of Easter, people who know Life is stronger than death. We gather to worship as children of God, children loved and claimed by the risen Lord. We gather to worship as the body of Christ, the church called out for service in the world. Easter people, Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Music

## CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together:

O God, whose love knows no bounds, forgive us when we fail to reflect your loving kindness. When we turn away from the goodness of your love, call us back with the tender voice of a caring friend. When we stumble over the gift of your grace, lift us up with the strong arms of a loving parent. When we are certain that we are alone in the chaos of this world, shower us with peace, the gentle breeze of an evening rain. When we cannot feel the flowing of your peace, show us your love with the hands and feet of Christ, your love incarnate. Forgive us, risen Christ, of all the ways we fall short, and teach us to be agents of resurrection in the world.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** 

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

### ALLELUIA!

- Word -

Jan Pennal

Joshua Allen

Rev. Michele R. Goff

### SCRIPTURE

Our first reading is from the book of Acts chapter 10 verses 44 through 48. O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Our next reading is from the First letter from John chapter 5, verses 1 through 6. Listen to the word of the Lord.

### This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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**PSALM 98 (SING UNTO THE LORD)** Music

### GOSPEL

Our gospel lesson today is from the gospel according to John chapter 15, verses 9 through 17. Hear the word of God for us.

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Music

### "Withholding Water" Rev. Michele R. Goff

### ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

All authority and power and dominion to the name that is above all names-Jesus Christ our Lord-now and in the age to come. Amen.

— Response —

Joshua Allen

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

We believe that the unity of the church can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; and that the variety of spiritual gifts. opportunities, backgrounds, and convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are, by virtue of our reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment, within the one visible people of God. We believe that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership in this church.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the blessed hope of the resurrection, we pray to the Lord of endless life, saving: By your grace. O God. raise us from death to life.

Life-giving God, we pray for the church . . . Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, so that we may speak your truth and live your love as believers in the body of Christ our Lord. By your grace, O God, raise us from death to life.

Life-giving God, we pray for the world . . . Let the whole earth make a joyful noise to you. Let the sea laugh and the mountains sing in the justice and joy of your presence. By your grace, O God, raise us from death to life.

Life-giving God, we pray for this community . . . Help us to love one another as Christ loves us, laying down our lives for those in need, so that all may know fullness and joy in you. By your grace, O God, raise us from death to life.

Life-giving God, we pray for loved ones . . .

Joshua Allen & Stefen Kane

### Rev. Michele R. Goff

Jan Pennal