



# Service for the Lord's Day

— Gathering —

## WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

## INTROIT

Joshua Allen

## 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

Liturgist, Jan Pennal

## MUSIC

Joshua Allen

## 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

Rev. Michele R. Goff

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

## ALLELUIA!

Joshua Allen

— Word —

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jan Pennal

## 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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## MUSIC

## PSALM 98 (SING UNTO THE LORD)

Joshua Allen & Stefen Kane

## GOSPEL

Rev. Michele R. Goff

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

## “Withholding Water”

Rev. Michele R. Goff

## DESCRIPTION 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 —

## MUSIC

Joshua Allen

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jan Pennal

*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,  
saying: 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 . . .