

Open your hearts to the One who is Love. ***We open our hearts to you, O God.***

Let us give thanks to God with us.

To the One who took on flesh, we give thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest.

... Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.

Dying you destroyed our death; rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

... Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, we bless you, God of glory, now and forever. **AMEN.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION HYMN #507 **Come to the Table of Grace**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Send us out, by the power of your Spirit, to proclaim the peace of Jesus Christ, inviting all people to believe in him and be baptized in his name, and to gather at the feast he prepares, eating and drinking with our living Lord.

— Sending —

***HYMN #327** **From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May the love of the holy triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— 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 **I Will Call Upon the Lord** Joshua Allen

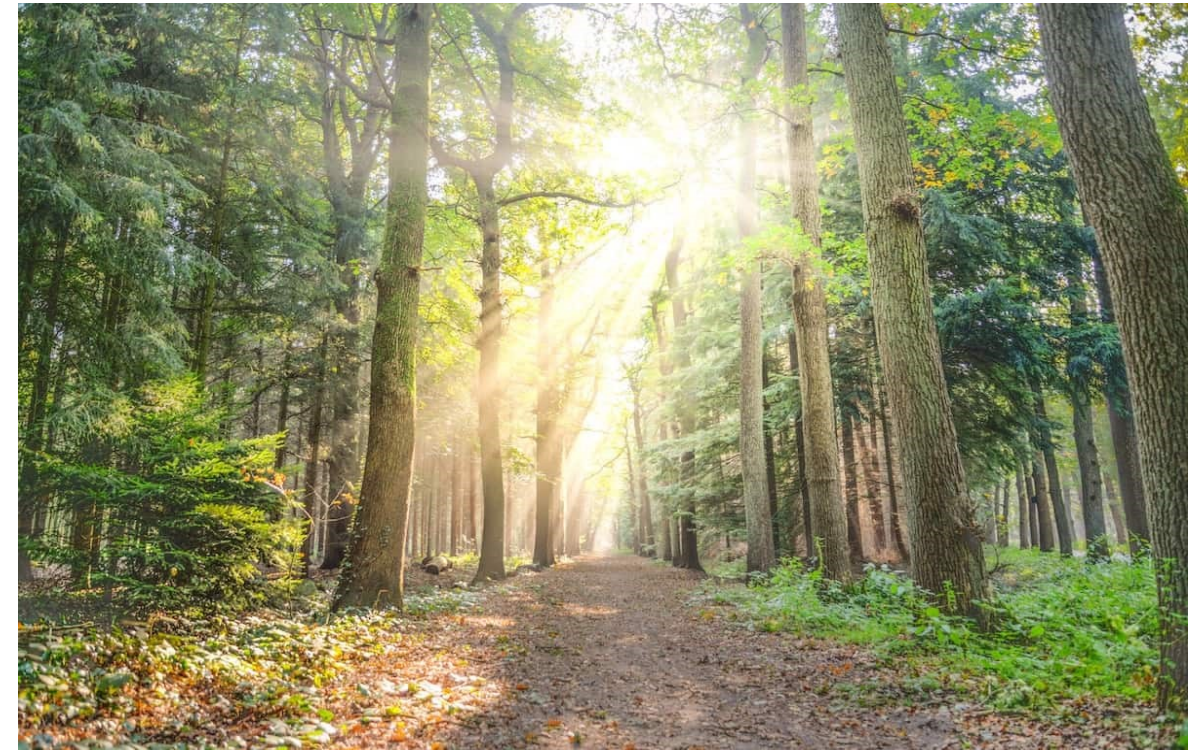
You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HENDERSON, TX

5th Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

() Please rise in body or in spirit*

Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

— Gathering —

PRELUDE **Festive Praise (Pote)** Joshua Allen

WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Liturgist: John Hillin

We come together as the church;
not a building of wood or stone, but a spiritual house.

We will be the living stones that shout praise even when others are silent.

God redeems us, joins us together, and builds us up.

<https://theblazingcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/autumn-bright-daylight-615348.jpg>

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN #505** The Feast Is Ready (The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing)

CONFESSION

This miraculous grace assures us that no matter what we have done,
no matter the words we have left unsaid, we can come to Christ with our honest confession.

*Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way, so clearly and fully.
You have not simply told us how to live, you have shown us. But we still don't get it.
We do not believe all you have said to us; we do not trust the way you have shown us.
Help us, O God. Forgive us. Open our ears to your truth, open our eyes to your way,
and lead us into new life.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Jesus prepares a place for us, Jesus brings us close to him,

Jesus answers us even in our unbelief.

We are God's own people. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***CELTIC ALLELUIA #587**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

— Word —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 7:55-60 Bible p. 118, LG p. 153

O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 1 Peter 2:2-10 Bible p. 219, LG p. 282-283

Hear God's word 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.*

GOSPEL John 14:1-14 Bible p. 102-103, LG p. 132-133

Hear God's wisdom for us.

The wisdom of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON The Untroubled Way Rev. Michele Goff

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

— Response—

***HYMN #661** His Eye Is on the Sparrow (Why Should I Feel Discouraged?)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26

Life in Christ is life eternal.

The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work

*of creation and reconciliation beyond death
and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We offer our prayers through Christ,

who lives and reigns forever,

and prays for us in heaven.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

... God of all power and glory, receive these prayers,

and continue your mighty work among us,

through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever, Amen.

— Eucharist —

INVITATION TO OFFERING

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a
sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world,

let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY Promised Land (Sleeth) Ensemble

***Doxology #607**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Great God, to you we give our thanks; your steadfast love endures forever.

With gratitude we bring our gifts to you.

Bless us and our gifts, that our lives and our resources

may be a source of healing and hope, of joy and justice in our world. Amen.

***INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Holy One be with you. *And also with you.*