

Peace UCC
May 2, 2021

Prelude "Fantasia in D minor" Johann Pachelbel
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Welcome

Opening Words

One: O Lord my God, I stand in awe at your greatness.

Many: Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

One: Your being is clothed with honor and majesty and robed in light

Many: Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

One: You stretch out the heavens like a tent, making the winds your messengers, and fire and flame your servants.

Many: Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

One: How great are your works, O God!

In your wisdom you created the earth and all that is within it.

Many: Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

One: In thanksgiving, let us worship and praise the Lord our God.

Many: Bless the Holy One, O my soul.

Opening Response "All Things Bright and Beautiful" Tune: Royal Oak

Prayer of Invocation written by Bruce Prewer

In a world that selfishly lives for the moment,

without thought for whatever evil we may be causing the future,
we thank you, God, for commanding us to be people of hope.

Do not allow us to be conformed
to the present short-sighted, self-serving attitudes
but open our eyes to see all those things that are possible
through Christ Jesus our Savior.

Give us a sure commitment to your new heaven and new earth
by living some of the promised future in the here and now:
giving with no thought of reward,
reaching out to the forsaken,
bandaging the wounded,
challenging injustices,
fostering seeds of faith,
caring for mother earth,
exposing pride and greed,
building bridges of understanding,
and loving our neighbors of the future.

Stretch our vision to include the improbable
and strengthen our wills to take the next step on your road.
Assure us again that you can do exceedingly more
than we can ever ask or imagine.

Glory be to your loving purposes, now and forever! Amen.

The Witness of Music Instrumental Ensemble
"Sweet Hour of Prayer" arr. Sue Clauss

Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev, Jim Antal

Hymn "O God, Creator of All Things" Tune: Forest Green

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom come, your will be done
on earth as it is 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 yours is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion

Prayer: Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ
in our midst, indeed, in one another.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Pray of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love
by bringing us to this meal.
We go from here renewed in faith,
renewed in courage,
and strengthened by your presence.
Thank you for loving us so tenderly.
Thank you for challenging us
to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen

How Shall We Join God's Work in the World

Gracious God, we give thanks.

We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join

Your work in the world. Amen

Benediction

Postlude "Trumpet Tune in D" Henry Purcell
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