

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 11, 2025**

**GATHERING:** *God invites us to enter His presence*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP** *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)* *Dan Obenschain*

Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty.  
**Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.**  
Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?  
**For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you.**  
—Revelation 15:3-4, NIV

 **INVOCATION** *(Responsively)* *Dan Obenschain*

O LORD, God of Israel,  
there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath,  
keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants  
who walk before you with all their heart.  
Blessed be the LORD,  
who has given rest to his people Israel  
according to all that he promised;  
not one word has failed of all his good promise,  
which he spoke through his servant Moses.  
**The LORD our God be with us,  
as he was with our ancestors;  
may he not leave us or abandon us,  
but incline our hearts to him,  
to walk in all his ways,  
and to keep his commandments,  
his statutes, and his ordinances,  
which he commanded our ancestors.**  
—1 Kings 8:23, 56-58, NRSV

 **OPENING HYMN 277** *The Church's One Foundation*

**CONFESSING:** *God invites us to be honest with Him*

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *Dan Obenschain*

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in  
freedom confess the wrong we have done.  
—based on Romans 8:39

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison)* *Dan Obenschain*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*Dan Obenschain*

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him  
may not perish but may have eternal life.  
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world  
to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

—John 3:16-17, NRSV

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*  
**All: Thanks be to God**

### **GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
A-men, A-men*

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You*  
**All: And also with you**

**OFFERING:** *Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him*

**INVITATION** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.  
Worship the LORD in holy splendor;  
tremble before him, all the earth.

—Psalm 96:8-9, NRSV

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

### **DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

 **PREPARATION SONG** *He Will Hold Me Fast*

Verse 1

*When I fear my faith will fail,  
Christ will hold me fast.  
When the tempter would prevail,  
He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold  
He must hold me fast.*

Chorus

*He will hold me fast,  
He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.*

Verse 2

*Those He saves are His delight,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight,  
He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost;  
His Promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost,  
He will hold me fast.*

Chorus

Verse 3

*For my life He bled and died,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied;  
He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life,  
He will hold me fast  
'Till our faith is turned to sight,  
When He comes at last!*

Chorus (2 x)

**PROCLAIMING:** *God speaks to us through His Work*

**SCRIPTURE READING**                      *John 14:12-14*

<sup>12</sup> "Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

**SERMON**

*"The Way to the Father"  
Rev. Tim Latham*



**HYMN OF RESPONSE 66**     *To God Be the Glory*

**RESPONDING:** *We respond to God's Word*

 **PROFESSION OF FAITH** *(In Unison)*

**We believe there is no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus;  
for we know that all things work together for good  
for those who love God,  
who are called according to God's purpose.  
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**COMMISSIONING:** *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

 **COMMISSION SONG**     *We Will Feast in the House of Zion*

*Chorus*

*We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more*

*Verse 1*

*We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the Lord our God  
We are not consumed by the flood  
Upheld protected gathered up*

*Chorus*

*Verse 2*

*In the dark of night before the dawn  
My soul be not afraid  
For the promised morning oh how long  
Oh God of Jacob be my strength*

*Chorus*

*Verse 3*

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the faithful one*

*And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together bring shalom*

*Chorus*

**BENEDICTION & BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

 *Please stand if you are able.*