

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 29, 2018  
10:00 A.M.**

**GATHERING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHIMES**

**PRELUDE**

*“The Holy City”* (Adams)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

From Psalm 22

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

**For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations.**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.

**Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #41**

*“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!”*

verses 1, 4, 5 (Kraus)

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God whose love has no bounds, we acknowledge Christ's vital message to us, that we remain in him, abide in him, so that we may be fruitful in our service to him and to others. We confess that we allow the world to get in the way. We allow other concerns and activities to consume us, and we make your Son a lesser priority. We fail to abide, so we fail to be fruitful. Forgive us, we pray. Send your Spirit to move us, to change us, so that we may place first things first: our essential connection with the living Christ. We pray in his name, the name of the one whose love carried him to the cross and death, but who has been raised and now reigns forever with you and your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### **\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #581**

*"Gloria Patri"* (Greatorex)

**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. Amen. Amen.**

### **\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: "The peace of the Lord be with you." "And also with you."

## **THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

Acts 8:26-39

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### **READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS**

1 John 4:7-21

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **ANTHEM**

*"Immortal Love, Forever Full"* (Butler)

**\*READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

John 15:1-8

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**A MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

**SERMON**

“The Spirit Said”

**\*HYMN (Insert)**

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!” (Kirchengesang)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From *The Confession of Belhar*

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.**

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;

**We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;**

We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;

**We believe that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership in this church.**

**SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**RETURNING TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

“Come Ye to the Waters” (Clarke)

**\*PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW #606**

(Genevan Psalter)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**God who is love, on this, the Fifth Sunday of the Season of Easter, we lift our hearts and voices in thanksgiving for your triumph over the sin that once separated us from you. Your victory was the cross and the empty tomb, the death and resurrection of your Beloved Son, who now reigns with you and your Spirit forever.**

**How can we live as if Christ has died? How can we live as if sin has won? Scripture commands us to love as Christ loves us, as you love us. We dedicate ourselves to this kind of sacrificial, demanding love. By the power of your Holy Spirit, grant us the perseverance to live in this way, each day. Through Christ our risen Lord. Amen.**

### **\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
holy is your name;  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN (Insert)**      *“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”*  
(Welsh Hymn Melody)

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

\*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.

Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.