

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Worship from home remotely, led from Zion's Lutheran Church

Welcome friends and guests: Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

Worship Service: In God's Boundless Diversity, we are all made in God's image! We gather in this time and space, breathing in the Spirit's invitation to connect, learn, and answer Jesus' call to justice and action. If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please fill out the guest card and put it in the offering plate so we have a record of your presence today. Come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m. Masks will now be at the discretion of each individual. We continue to be mindful of the different ways people are health compromised that may not be known. So please continue to practice healthy community habits such as stay home when you are sick, wash hands, observe social distancing, etc.

Holy Communion: The Sacrament is offered to all worshiping with us. Zoom congregants, have your bread/wafer and juice/wine ready. Those worshiping in person may come forward for the sacraments or, cross your arms across your chest for a blessing instead.

Fellowship: Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for snacks, coffee, etc. and good conversation.

Other Information: Large print copies of the bulletin are available from our ushers. Restrooms are located in the Fellowship Hall adjoining the sanctuary. Our ushers can direct you.

~We Prepare for Worship~

Welcome and Gathering of Prayers

~Gathering~

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Call to Worship

God calls us to this place, a haven for healing & hope. We come, with the pain of our burdens, we come to hear God's Word of hope for us.

Together, we will sing songs of joy; each of us will hear God whisper our name...'Beloved of my heart.'

We join our voices in prayer and praise; we sing of our longing for new lives.

Here, our shadowed corners are filled with Light; here we discover that God dwells in us.

And not just us, for God will teach all to love; God's Spirit will lead all peoples in peace. Amen.

Opening Prayer

We humble ourselves in Your living presence, holy, merciful all-knowing God. We rest in Your presence gracious Jesus, Savior, Lord and Creator of all that is. We seek Your wisdom, guidance, presence and hope, Holy Spirit, Keeper of the Church. Three but One, perfect in all things, we approach You in the mystery of Your being, seeking to offer You our worship, thanksgiving and praise. Come, through Your Spirit to heal, inspire and renew us. In the name of Christ Jesus. **Amen**.

Gathering Hymn: #377 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!, verses 1-4



Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

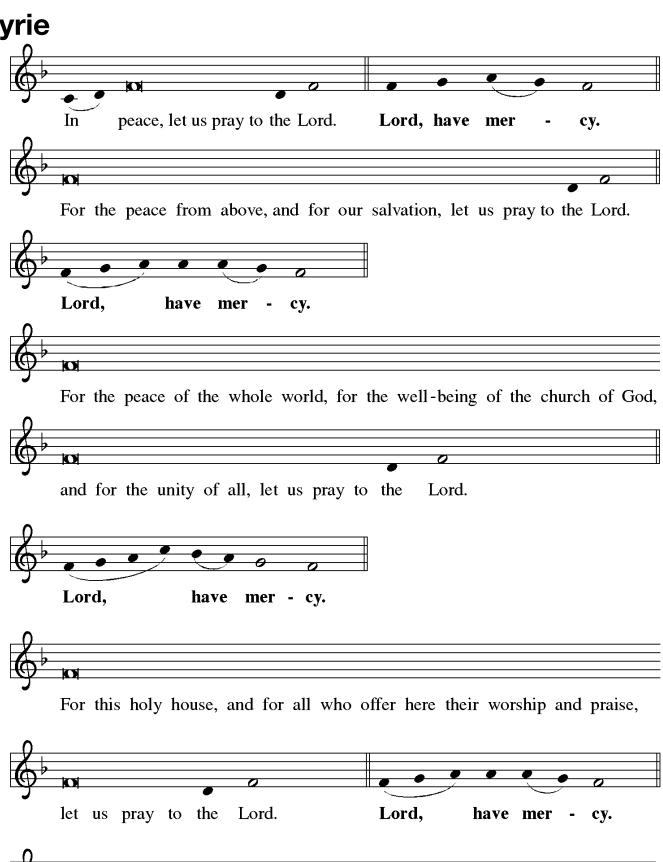
Confession & Forgiveness

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another. Lord, You know how easy it is for us to sit tethered to our darkness and fear. We get bound up by chains of mistrust. We dare not to hope, for so many times before we have been disappointed. So we sit here and wonder where you are. We are not unlike the disciples who wondered also, who feared. Lord, come to us in our darkness. Flood us with your powerful light of love and mercy. Help open our eyes to the good news of your eternal glory. Give to us visions of the place in which love and hope will reign. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your mercy and your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Let the light of God's eternal love flood into your hearts this day. Feel the healing presence of God in your lives. Accept God's love and hope for you. This is the gift freely given for you by Jesus Christ, God's risen Son our Lord. **Amen**.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

~Word~

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Time

Children of all ages, please come forward

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

A reading from Acts

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 67 (Read responsively)

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

²Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

³Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5

A reading from Revelation

- ¹⁰And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.
- ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.
- ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.
- ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.
- ^{22:1}Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each

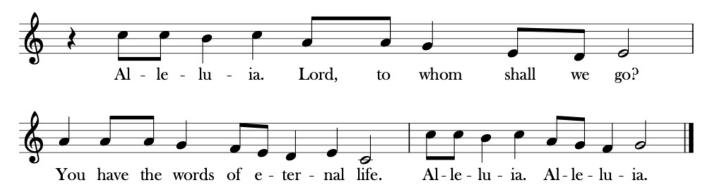
month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

³Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: John 14:23-29

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

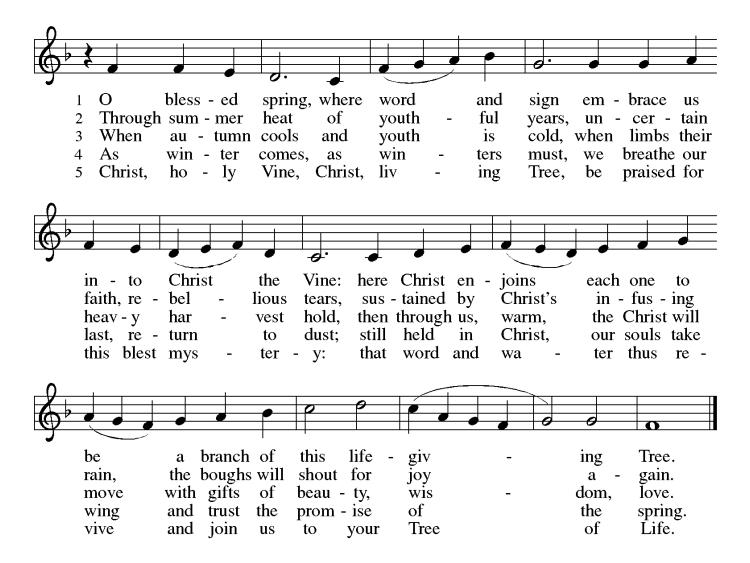
²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily - The Rev. Dr. Becky McNeil

Hymn of the Day: #447 O Blessed Spring (next page)



Invitation to Prayer

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Prayers of Intercession

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Accompany us at Zion's during our congregational time of transition, grant us

the peace that passes all understanding that only you can give us. Surround us with your peace.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace especially...Create places filled with hospitality and hope where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people especially The Way ministry; our local ACTS ministry; and the prison congregation New Beginnings and Pastor Schjang. Accomplish your will through their efforts.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died especially...when we meet together at your river of life.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace and of our shared friendship and love for one another and for all who seek you. The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share Christ's Peace.

~Meal~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

An offering is gathered for missions of the church. You also can give using check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1224741

Offertory: #689, Praise and Thanksgiving verses 3 & 4



Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

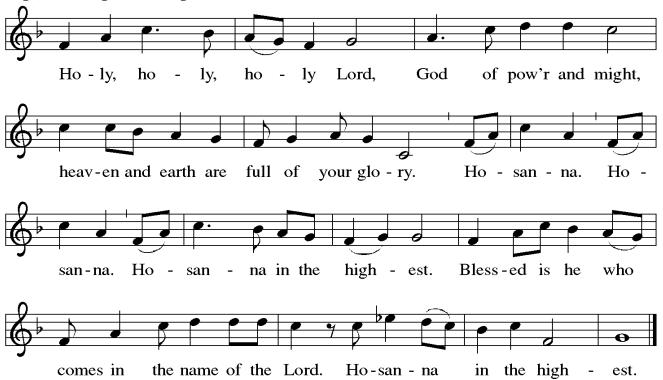
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Everyone is welcomed at God's table.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Distribution of Sacrament of Holy Communion:

Communion Hymn: #785 When Peace Like a River



- 1 When peace like a riv er at tend eth my way, when
- 2 Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als should come, let
- 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo ri ous thought; my
- 4 Lord, has ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like bil - lows roll, what - ev sea er my lot, thou hast Christ hath re - gard - ed my this blest as - sur - ance con - trol. that nailed to his and I sin. not part, but the whole, is cross clouds be rolled back scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the as a



Lord, praise the Lord, O soul! bear it no more. Praise the my shall de - scend; e - ven it is well with my soul. SO



Communion Hymn #638 Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:

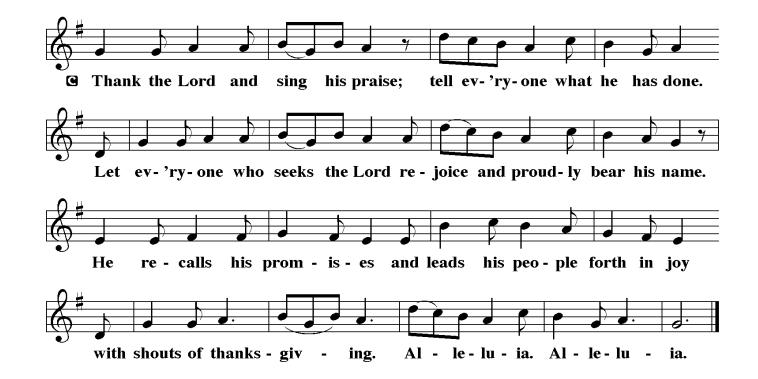


this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Communion Blessing

May the body & blood of Jesus, strengthen us, preserve us, and unite us in Love ⊕. **Amen.**

Song of Thanksgiving (next page)



Communion Prayer

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

~Sending~

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements & Special Blessings

Godspeed & Farewell

Pat as you leave our community we wish to bid you farewell.

Sending Reading: Exodus 23:20

mission we share.

A reading from Exodus: The Lord said, "I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared." In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his church. When you came to Zion's Lutheran Church, we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God's loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community, and God has blessed us through you. We encourage you to continue to receive and share God's gifts in Florida, united with us in the body of Christ and the

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servants Pat Fletcher who have enriched our congregation and our community and who have shared their gifts with all of us. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed -- friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of that which is now calling them. By your Holy Spirit be present in their pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing & Benediction

Go now and walk in the light of God's glory. Love Christ and keep his word. Do not let your hearts be troubled, but lead others to the waters of life. And may God's face shine on you with favor; May Christ Jesus mark you out as his own; And may the Holy Spirit lead you into all truth and peace +. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #763, My Life Flows On...



- 1 My life flows on in end less song; a bove earth's lam-en ta tion,
- 2 Through all the tu mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion. It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing? What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth. All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth,how can I keep from sing-ing?

Dismissal

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord...In the name of Christ. Amen.

~Announcements~

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 22, 2022

Worship Leaders: The Rev. Dr. Becky McNeil, Julie Wersal, and Ruthie Culpepper

Zoom Leaders: Sharon Sorenson & Ernie Parker Music: Connie Pallone and Sharon Sorenson Ushers: Ruthie Culpepper and Cheri Holder

Communion: Carol Schulzkump

Flowers: Presented by Lynn Chase in memory of her brother Russ.

Sunday, May 22:

Morning Bible Study is at 8:30 a.m. We are studying "The Wesley Challenge", which is a 21-day challenge to grow in faith. Join in person or via Zoom at:
 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/907628370?pwd=eFVCTEVhb0xqMXcxY2xaUG5JMUZEdz09
 Or Dial 1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 907 628 370 Passcode: 332397.

- Fellowship time follows morning worship and is in the Fellowship Hall.
- Church Council Meeting takes place downstairs after worship & fellowship.
- Bread & Belonging Our high school/college ministry gathers each Sunday night from 6-8 p.m. in the lower level of the Fellowship Hall.
- Volunteers are needed on Saturday May 28 to deliver meals for 5 Loaves, please consider supporting this ministry and let Jo Moss, Norine Hazen, or Peggy Gustafson if you can help.
- W Women's Bible Study has begun a new series on the Psalms. The next session is at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 3, in person in the Fellowship Hall downstairs and on Zoom. Any questions can be directed to Becky McNeil or Carol Smith. All are welcome! To Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83136424723?pwd=TkxsQVIIMmo2bVISekN0dGZqbzF1Zz09 -- Meeting ID: 831 3642 4723 -- Passcode: 865505 (or call 1-312-626-6799).
- Consider sponsoring the flowers that beautify our worship space, contact Lynn Chase or sign up on the Flower Chart at the back of the Sanctuary. For a donation of \$25 you may choose to take the arrangements with you or let the flower team deliver the flowers to those who are sick, in hospice, or in need of cheer. Once you sign up, place your check in the offering plate.
- If you have not done so, consider serving as Fellowship Time Host (bring food/clean up). Sign up on the calendar near the kitchen entrance.
- Copies of Portals of Prayer are available in the Sanctuary and large print versions are on the front table in the Fellowship Hall.
- SAVE THE DATES: We will celebrate outdoor worship (weather permitting) on the last Sunday of each summer month -- June 26, July 31, and Aug. 28, as well as Sept. 11, for God's Work Our Hands Sunday.
- Good News: The National Landmarks Committee has recommended designation of Temple Aaron here in Trinidad as a National Historic Landmark, in a unanimous 11-0 decision, subject to final approval by the National Park System Advisory Board and designation by the Secretary of the Interior.

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Opening Prayer (adapted): from the Church of Scotland, Copyright © The Church Of Scotland, 2022. All Rights Reserved at https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/weekly-worship/monthly/may-2022/22-may-6th-sunday-of-easter. Confession & Forgiveness and Words of Assurance: written by Nancy Townley, and posted on the *Worship Connection* page of the

Ministry Matters website at http://www.ministrymatters.com/