

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 116*

One: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

All: God inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

One: What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

All: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

One: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

All: Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" GtG 804

1. **Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.**

Refrain

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

2. **With voice as full and strong
as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
the psalms of ancient days.**

Refrain

(continued...)

3. **Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe:**

Refrain

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

4. **At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest.**

Refrain

5. **Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.**

Refrain

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre, 1865

Tune: MARION, Arthur Henry Messiter, 1883

Public Domain

PRELUDE TO PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Jesus Christ was destined before the foundation of the world to ransom us from our foolish ways. Through him we have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory. Let us come before the throne of Christ confessing our sins:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: We are cut to the heart knowing we have crucified you with our words and our actions. Every time we hurt or offend someone we realize our sinfulness. Every time we are less than who you created us to be, we feel deep remorse and pain for the suffering we have caused.

(continued...)

Show us how to make amends. Help us find the path that leads to life in all its fullness and abundance, not only for ourselves but also for all those we love. Hear our personal and private prayers as we come to you in this moment of silence...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply, from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable seed but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring Word of God.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Epistle Acts 2:14(a), 36-41 [NRSV]

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35 [NRSV]

SERMON “**With Hearts Burning Within**” *by Reverend Emily Rosencrans*

***HYMN** “More Love to Thee, O Christ” GtG 828

**1. More love to thee, O Christ,
more love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make
on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!
(continued...)**

2. **Once earthly joy I craved,
sought peace and rest.
Now thee alone I seek;
give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!**

3. **Then shall my latest breath
whisper thy praise;
this be the parting cry
my heart shall raise.
This still its prayer shall be:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!**

Words: Elizabeth Payson Prentiss, 1856
Music: William Howard Doane, 1870
Public Domain

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from “A Brief Statement of Faith”**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

(continued ...)

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Rev. Rosencrans takes prayer requests and offers prayers.)

**All respond: Lord, hear our prayers. In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed by 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 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**

OFFERING

Invitation

*(One) What shall we return to the Lord for all God's bounty to us?
We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people
and offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving.*

Reflection

*** Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**We thank you, God, for opening our eyes so we recognize you.
We thank you for the many gifts you have bestowed on us and
for allowing us to be born anew, so we may love and give
generously with hearts burning within. In the name of our
Risen Lord we pray, Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” (*Spirit*) GtG 291**

Refrain

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness,
calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

- 1. You moved on the waters;
you called to the deep;
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons
you called to each thing,
“Awake from you slumbers
and rise on you wings.”**

Refrain

- 2. You swept through the desert;
you stung with the sand;
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land.
When they were confounded
with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes.**

Refrain

- 3. You sang in a stable;
you cried from a hill;
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still.
And down in the city,
you called once again
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind.**

Refrain

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness,
calling and free.
spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

- 4. You call from tomorrow;
you break ancient schemes;
from the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams.
Our women see visions;
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise.**

Refrain

Words: James K. Manley, 1975, alt.; © 1978 James K. Manley

Music (SPIRIT, Irregular): James K. Manley, 1976; © 1978 James K. Manley

Used by permission through CCLI License #11178434 & #20702248

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**All: May God open our eyes to recognize Jesus Christ as our Lord and
Savior, and to see God in every person we encounter.**

(continued ...)

One: May the road rise up to meet you,
 May the wind be always at your back,
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,
 The rain fall soft upon your field,
And until we meet again,
 May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

POSTLUDE

***Standing if able.**