



Minister: Rev Greg Daly
Music Director: Steven Webb
May 15, 2022 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Gathering Song Where Two or Three are Gathered MV 14

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

Worship Call

The sun rises without fail, bringing a new day to the earth.

We rise to embrace this gift.

Bulbs push through the ground, buds begin to pop,

singing to God with a glorious parade of colour.

We emerge from our hibernation, shaking off the dust and the cobwebs, turning our faces towards your warmth, God.

Ready to join the bulbs and the buds in songs of praise and gratitude.

We come together in worship.

Acknowledging the Land

Candle Lighting

Prayer for Grace

This day we bring to you God, everything in us, in our lives, and in our world that is still wrapped in winter cold. Work your wonder in us. Let patience and strength take root. Let hope bud where none seems possible.

Let passion and courage for what is right, flower in us. May life rise out of empty hearts and broken places. Spark us to continue to work your Easter wonder in us. We thank you God.

Amen

Sing It Only Takes a Spark VU 289

*It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing:
that's how it is with God's love,*

*once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone,
you want to pass it on.*

*What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees
are budding,
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
you want to pass it on.*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

And Now for Something Completely Different

Prayer of Illumination

*Join with us, living God, as we meet around your word and reflect upon it.
Encourage us, inspire us. Amen.*

Sharing Ancient Story Acts 11:1-18 (the Message)

¹⁻³ The news traveled fast and in no time the leaders and friends back in Jerusalem heard about it—heard that the non-Jewish “outsiders” were now “in.” When Peter got back to Jerusalem, some of his old associates, concerned about circumcision, called him on the carpet: “What do you think you’re doing rubbing shoulders with that crowd, eating what is prohibited and ruining our good name?”

⁴⁻⁶ So Peter, starting from the beginning, laid it out for them step-by-step: “Recently I was in the town of Joppa praying. I fell into a trance and saw a vision: Something like a huge blanket, lowered by ropes at its four corners, came down out of heaven and settled on the ground in front of me. Milling around on the blanket were farm animals, wild animals, reptiles, birds—you name it, it was there. Fascinated, I took it all in.

⁷⁻¹⁰ “Then I heard a voice: ‘Go to it, Peter - kill and eat.’ I said, ‘Oh, no, I couldn’t. I’ve never so much as tasted food that wasn’t kosher.’ The voice spoke again: ‘If God says it’s okay, it’s okay.’ This happened three times, and then the blanket was pulled back up into the sky.

¹¹⁻¹⁴ “Just then three men showed up at the house where I was staying, sent from Caesarea to get me. The Spirit told me to go with them, no questions asked. So I went with them, I and six friends, to the man who had sent for me. He told us how he had seen an angel right in his own house, real as his next-door neighbor, saying, ‘Send to Joppa and get Simon, the one they call Peter. He’ll tell you something that will save your life—in fact, you and everyone you care for.’

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ “So I started in, talking. Before I’d spoken half a dozen sentences, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us the first time. I remembered Jesus’ words: ‘John baptized with water; you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So I ask you: If God gave the same exact gift to them as to us when we believed in the Master Jesus Christ, how could I object to God?”

¹⁸ Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. “It’s really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to Life!”

Gift of music Fairest Lord Jesus Arr. By Mark Hayes & Steven Webb

Sermon Carrying the Light

Sing **All Who Hunger** **VU 460**

*All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering.
Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Responding to God and Community

On Monday May 16, 2022 at 10:30 am there will be a memorial service for long time congregant and Beach community member Joan Square in the Main Hall here at Beach United Church. Graveside interment will follow at Pine Hills Cemetery.

Sing our response: I am a Child of God MV 157

*I am a child of God, I am a glimpse of God’s new creation.
I am a child of God, I am a child of God.*

*I am a cry for peace, I am commitment and dedication,
I am a cry for peace, I am a cry for peace.*

*I am a song of joy, I am the moment of jubilation,
I am a song of joy, I am a song of joy.*

Praying for people and the world

Blessed One, our loving parent, holy is your name. May your love be enacted in the world. May your way be lived into on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our wrongdoing as we forgive those who visit wrongdoing upon us. Journey with us in times of trial and support us when oppression and injustice are present. For all that we do in your love, and all that your love brings to birth, and the fullness of love that will be exist because of you, and remain yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sing

We are One

VU 402

We are one as we come,
as we come, joyful to be here,
in the praise on our lips
there's a sense that God is near.
We are one as we sing,
as we seek, we are found;
and we come needful of God's grace
as we meet, together in this place.

We are one as we hear,
as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive
there's a sense that God is light.
We are one as we leave,
as we love, we are loved;
and we seek justice in God's ways
as we move together from this place.

Benediction & Commissioning

Sing blessing

Put Peace into Each Others Hands MV 173

*Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.*

*Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.*