

# Worship Service ~ “Grace is Not a Race”

**3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B, Guest Pastor - Carol Mason**

14<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

**1 John 3:1-7 NRSV / Luke 24:36b-48 NRSV**

## Prelude

**[Gentle God, When We are Driven](#)**

Played by church musician Annie Center,

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## Opening Music (Video)

**[He Lives](#)**

Alfred Henry Ackley

Written by Alfred Henry Ackley, CCLI SONG #17597. COPYRIGHTS: Words: 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver. Renewed 1961 Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.) Music: 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver. Renewed 1961 Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.) Performed and posted on YouTube by Alfred Street Baptist Church, used and reported under CCLI Streaming License 20261246.

## Welcome / Announcements

**I'm glad to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.**

**We seek to welcome all of God's children to join us in bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love. As we gather today, let's share the joy and peace of Christ with each other by greeting each other as we pass the peace.**

## Pass the Peace

**[Lamb of Glory](#)**

Played by church musician Annie Center,

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## Opening Hymn (Video)

**[When Morning Gilds the Skies](#)**

**644**

## Call to Worship

One: We gather in the name of the risen Lord.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: We gather as sisters and brothers of the resurrected one.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: We gather to share our faith and to worship God.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: We gather to proclaim the good news of Easter!

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

## Invocation

God of the resurrection, we gather this morning as a community of believers. We come with joy to greet one another and to tell again and again the amazing news: Christ is risen! Love is victorious over death! You have given us new life in the name of your Son! May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming be a testimony to the power of your love to make us a new creation as a community of faith. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

## New Testament Reading ~ 1 John 3:1-7 NRSV

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

## A Time of Prayer

### Sharing Joys and Concerns

**Today we come together as a community to share together our joys and concerns, and lift them to God in prayer.**

### Pastoral Prayer

**Hymn** (Video)

**[Love Divine, All Loves Excelling](#) 592**

## **Gospel Reading ~ Luke 24:36b-48 NRSV**

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?'

Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'

They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,

and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,

and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things.

**Message**                      ***"Grace is Not a Race"***      *Guest Pastor- Carol Mason*

### **Call to Serve**

As we continue to seek to become a place of compassion and support to our community, we ask that you give prayerful consideration as to how you may support our efforts. If you would like to make a donation, there are envelopes by the collection plate at the entrance. Online donations can be made through our website. Prayers and suggestions are also welcome! Thanks again for all your support, and may we continue to work together to keep being a place of ministry that seeks to promote the growth of God's shalom around us. Today, as we listen to Annie play, let's reflect on how we celebrate our faith, and how we might use our gifts and talents to inspire others to do the same.

**A Time for Reflection** (Video) [He](#)  
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Played by church musician Annie Center,

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord of Dawn and Darkness, how grateful we are for your loving mercies. You saw our fear and doubt, our suspicion, our mistrust, and you banished them from our lives, replacing them with hope, peace, love, and joy.

You called us to be your witnesses, to all the world, unafraid of what others might think or say about us. We have been invited out of our darkened hideaways, into the light of your world as emissaries of hope and justice, peace and compassion.

Be with us, as we participate in ministries of healing and hope through this church, in our community, region, nation, and world. Give us courage and strength to be your disciples in all the circumstances of our lives; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

— written by Nancy C. Townley, and posted on the Worship Connection page of the Ministry Matters website.

**Hymn** (Video) [Lift Every Voice and Sing](#) **579**

## Benediction

We have eaten together with the risen Christ. Go out then, as witnesses of these things. Attend to your heart, worship with integrity, trust in the Lord. Proclaim forgiveness and healing in his name to all.

And may God raise you from death to life, from brokenness to perfect health; May Christ Jesus cast out your fear and doubt; And may the Holy Spirit give your heart joy, even as the bread and wine give your body life.

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

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**Postlude** [Come Onto Jesus](#)

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