

****Script Worship Resources - *God is Life***

7th Sunday in Easter, Year B,

12th May, 2024

Psalm 1 NRSV / 1 John 5:1-5, 9-13 NRSV

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

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Opening Music (video)

[**Faith That Conquers**](#)

Kiena Williams

“Faith That Conquers” by Vanessa Bell Armstrong / feat. Kiena Williams / Adam Podd, piano / for online worship at First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn 10.4.2020

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

Opening Hymn

When Peace Like a River ~ 336

Call to Worship

One: Come, quench your thirst in the love of God.

All: We come, hungering for a place in which we can be gently nourished.

One: Be like trees planted by the streams of living water, ready to receive God's nourishment.

All: Strengthen us, O God, to receive your blessed peace.

One: Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah! AMEN.

Call to Worship taken from MinistryMatters.com

Invocation

God of New Beginnings, today is a new day. We have this fresh start. Help us to turn our hearts and minds to You, to realign our lives this week to Your ways. We remember and give thanks for all You have taught us, and for the ways You

continue to surprise us, through the stories of old and the new testimonies we receive, for You are the Living God, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

Written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell at Rev-o-lution.org

Old Testament Reading ~ Psalm 1 NRSV

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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

prayer by pastor

The prophet Isaiah said, "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you." Mothering God, we cherish Your great love for us. As the Creator, You made us in Your image, and called life from the earth and water. In baptism, we are born anew, from water and Spirit, and Your love and care are made known to us as we grow in faith.

We give You thanks for those who have been mothers and stepmothers in our lives, for grandmothers and aunts and all those who have been like mothers to us, who have shown us Your comfort and courage, peace and strength.

God of Peace, we acknowledge that this day that was originally created for mothers grieving the loss of their children in war. We grieve with all who have lost a child, who have struggled with fertility issues, who have had to give up children in foster care and adoption. May Your love surround us, hold us in these tender times.

Loving God, we hold tenderly the ones who have difficult relationships with their mothers, for those who have separated in relationship. We weep with those who are missing their mothers.

In these difficult times, O God, we know the distance that separates us, the physical distance for safety, the distance of time for those gone, the distance of fading memories. We know the distance of estrangement. We pray for healing wherever possible, O God, for forgiveness wherever possible, and for the hope that You bring in our lives.

Hold us, Loving Parent, in Your healing hands, on this day. Amen.

Written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell at Rev-o-lution.org

Hymn In the Bulb There is a Flower ~ 614

Epistle Reading ~ 1 John 5:1-5, 9-13 NRSV

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Message ~ *God is Life* *Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Sacia Vic*

Call to Serve

As we seek to become a place of compassion we ask that you consider all the ways that you could help our community through prayers, participation, partnering, or philanthropy. Donations are always welcome, but there are many other ways to engage as well. Support your favorite non-profit. Help a child with their homework. Call somebody who is a mother and wish them a happy Mother's Day! Keep your eyes open to opportunities and possibilities to make another person's day a little more hopeful. And pray for the courage to step out in faith when the time is right. It all begins and ends with prayer - in gratitude, in crisis, in reflection on the day's events. As we listen to Annie play, reflect on the blessings that are all around us, and give thanks for the time we have together.

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

God our creator, You have made us one with this earth, to tend it and to bring forth fruit. May we so respect and cherish all that has life from you, that we may share in the labor of all creation to give birth to your hidden glory, through Jesus Christ, AMEN

Hymn **In Christ There is No East or West ~ 306**

Benediction Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,
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