

## **Worship Service ~ *Identify Yourself***

**Easter 7, Year A,**

May 17, 2026

**1 Peter 4:12-16; 5:6-11 / John 17:1-11 MSG**

**Prelude**

played by church musician Annie Center,

## **Gathering Together**

**Welcome**

Good morning, my name is *Rev. Sacia Vike*. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with as you are able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

**Call to Worship** ~ Adapted from Psalm 68

One: Sing praises to the Lord!

**All: Raise your voice in song to the one who rides the clouds!**

One: Jehovah is the Lord's name, and we rejoice in the Lord's presence.

**All: The Lord is a parent to the orphan in this sacred home.**

One: The Lord protects widows, for the Lord is holy.

**All: The Lord finds families for the lonely,**

One: and releases prisoners from jail.

**All: We sing with joy and welcome, thankful for this day!**

## **Invocation**

Gracious God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of Life, have mercy on us. Reveal yourself in all things, to all things, and through all things. Grant us the gift of becoming a community of the incarnation, mystery of Word made flesh, who sees and celebrates Good News in hard places. Give us the tongue of a teacher to sustain the weary with the Word, and free leaders from all walks of life to love their city and seek its peace with the Gospel of Jesus. Amen. From [streetpsalms.org](http://streetpsalms.org)

## Engaging with God Together

### Scripture Reading ~ 1 Peter 4:12-16; 5:6-11

<sup>12-13</sup> Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

<sup>14-16</sup> If you're abused because of Christ, count yourself fortunate. It's the Spirit of God and his glory in you that brought you to the notice of others. If they're on you because you broke the law or disturbed the peace, that's a different matter. But if it's because you're a Christian, don't give it a second thought. Be proud of the distinguished status reflected in that name!

### 1 Peter 5:6-11

<sup>6-7</sup> So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you.

<sup>8-11</sup> Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you napping. Keep your guard up. You're not the only ones plunged into these hard times. It's the same with Christians all over the world. So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God who has great plans for us in Christ—eternal and glorious plans they are!—will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, he does.

### Pass the Peace

#### Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up?

Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

## **Pastoral Prayer**

We offer our prayers on behalf  
of our neighbors whose needs are known to us.  
We pray both for the sisters and brothers we know  
and for those who are strangers.

Open our minds to understand the scriptures, O God,  
so that when sin cripples our hope,  
we may discover the freedom of your forgiveness;  
when suffering and death overtake our lives,  
we may know the joy of the risen Christ;  
and when we feel abandoned,  
we may comprehend the power of the promised Spirit,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn**                      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ~ 592*

## **Hearing the Word Together**

**Sermon Passage ~ John 17:1-11**

<sup>1-5</sup> Jesus said these things. Then, raising his eyes in prayer, he said:

Father, it's time.  
Display the bright splendor of your Son  
So the Son in turn may show your bright splendor.  
You put him in charge of everything human  
So he might give real and eternal life to all in his care.  
And this is the real and eternal life:  
That they know you,  
The one and only true God,  
And Jesus Christ, whom you sent.  
I glorified you on earth  
By completing down to the last detail  
What you assigned me to do.  
And now, Father, glorify me with your very own splendor,

The very splendor I had in your presence  
Before there was a world.

I spelled out your character in detail  
To the men and women you gave me.  
They were yours in the first place;  
Then you gave them to me,  
And they have now done what you said.  
They know now, beyond the shadow of a doubt,  
That everything you gave me is firsthand from you,  
For the message you gave me, I gave them;  
And they took it, and were convinced  
That I came from you.  
They believed that you sent me.

I pray for them.

I'm not praying for the God-rejecting world  
But for those you gave me,  
For they are yours by right.

Everything mine is yours, and yours mine,  
And my life is on display in them.

For I'm no longer going to be visible in the world;  
They'll continue in the world  
While I return to you.

Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life  
That you conferred as a gift through me,  
So they can be one heart and mind  
As we are one heart and mind.

As long as I was with them, I guarded them

In the pursuit of the life you gave through me; I even posted a lookout.

And not one of them got away, Except for the rebel bent on destruction  
(the exception that proved the rule of Scripture).

## Sermon ~ *Identify Yourself*

Rev. Dr. Sacia Vik

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all creation, in you, all things are one. There is nothing that is outside your love, nothing that is not related. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., "We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality..." And so Holy Spirit, we yield to the One that is one-ing all of creation, in Christ.

We pray this in the name of the Father who is for us, the Son who is with us, and the Spirit who unites us all in the never-ending dance of Love. Amen.

From May 17 prayer at <https://streetpsalms.org>

## Responding to the Word Together

### Call to Serve

God without borders, help us to take a step closer to our brothers and sisters. Wherever they originally are from, we are all headed towards You, help us travel this one road together. Give us the ability to welcome and to serve as you would today, even if our steps are local let our hearts be filled with a love of the global. Today we choose you, we choose life, we choose to be with others and to be for others, thanking you for the chance to serve.

**A Time for Reflection**      Played by church musician Annie Center,

**Closing Hymn**      *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian ~ 632*

### Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

**Postlude**      played by church musician Annie Center,

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