CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

"Have you anything here to eat?" Jesus asks. Have we anything here to share? As the ushers wait upon us, may we share our gifts, that others may be fed.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM 'Allegro' S. S. Wesley

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Author of life and Giver of all gifts, we thank you for the many blessings of our lives. Receive now these gifts and transform them with the power of your love. May they become witnesses to your resurrection, proclaiming your power and forgiveness in our community and throughout the world.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are witnesses of God's love.

People: We are witnesses of God's love.

Pastor: You are witnesses of Christ's life.

People: We are witnesses of Christ's life.

Pastor: You are witnesses of the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: We are witnesses of life and love in the Spirit.

Go forth as witnesses of the blessings of our God.

†

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE 'Danish Amen' No 898

A-men, a-men, a - men.

*RECESSIONAL HYM 'Shalom to You' No. 666

*POSTLUDE 'Choral Song' S. S. Wesley

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church April 14, 2024



Pastor Russel contact information:

Phone: (412) 735-5072 Email: Shulugarussel@gmail.com Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS

As we focus on the Light of the World, God's vision of justice and love grows clearer and shines more brightly in our thoughts and actions.

G. F. Handel

PRELUDE 'Allegro from Fire Works'

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

OPENING HYMN 'Christ Is Alive' No. 318 VS. 1, 2 & 5

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Fear hung over the disciples as a dark cloud.

People: Huddled in the upper room, they spoke in soft whispers, afraid of the

sound of their own voices.

Pastor: Lightning flashed in their souls.

People: Christ, the Risen Lord, was standing with them, eating with them, talking

with them.

Pastor: Where doubt had reigned, hope now grew.

People: Where fear and panic had laid claim, faith was again planted.

Pastor: Come, let us worship the God of great miracles.

People: Let us lift our voices in praise to God! AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of Light and Mercy, be with us this day as we again hear the stories of faith and sight. Help us to believe in your abiding presence with us, both in our darkness and in the light which you bring. Give us courage and strength to witness to your resurrection. For we offer this in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

INTROIT 'His Name Is Wonderful' No. 174

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE 'Thy Word' No. 601 (Refrain only)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON 1 John 3: 1-7

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 'Alleluia' No. 186

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

Pastor: The Lord be with you, **People:** and also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ Luke 24: 36b-48

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON Dai Morgan

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

May we prepare our hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

GENERAL CONFESSION

Gracious God, you give to us your greatest gift, Your Son Jesus Christ, as we still don't understand what is going on. You call us to be people of courage and hope; and yet we run and hide, doubting and fearing. You challenge us to proclaim our faith; but we huddle in darkness whispering our words of discouragement. Shake us up, Lord! Forgive us when we seem to need prodding over and over again. Help us to see the presence of Jesus in our lives; and remind us of all that He taught us, to help us to live as disciples, serving you by serving others. Change us! Remold us! Make us truly the disciples you have called us to be. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not be afraid. The Light of God has vanquished the darkness! Christ is risen! Doubts are erased. Rejoice!

God's love is poured upon you, now and forever. AMEN.

HYMN OF ASURANCE 'He Touched Me' No. 367