

HOPE CHURCH
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 21, 2017 ~ 11:00 AM

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE *Variations on Amazing Grace*

David Dahl

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *Cry Out to God*

Warner

Cry out to God in joy, all the earth. Give glory to the name of the Lord.
Come and see the works of our Maker; how amazing his deeds on the earth!
He turned the sea into dry land, over dry land they passed through the sea.
Let us bless the Lord, our God. Let the voice of God's praise resound;
the God who breathes in our being, who directed the steps of our way.
Come and hear, you who fear the Lord, as I tell how he rescued my soul!
I cried to God and was answered; God's praise is ever on my lips.

VOTUM AND SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the LORD who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Amen.

The God who made the world and everything in it,

the one who is Lord of heaven and earth,

does not live in shrines made by human hands.

God gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

God made all nations to inhabit the whole earth.

Indeed, God is not far from each one of us,

for "in God we live and move and have our being."

from Acts 17

Therefore we will not fear,

but will always be ready, with gentleness and reverence

to give a good reason for the hope that is in us.

from 1 Peter 3

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN Red #246 *God Is Here*

NETTLETON

stanzas 1-4

*SALUTATION

*Congregation to rise in body or spirit

Bold type indicates congregational response

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

**Great and loving God,
your will for us in Jesus
is the peace which the world cannot give;
your abiding gift is the Advocate whom Jesus promised.
Calm all troubled hearts,
dispel every fear.
Keep us steadfast in love
and faithful to your word,
that we may always be your dwelling place.
All praise and adoration is yours,
now and throughout eternity. Amen.**

*ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE Red #496 *Come, All You People*

UYAI MOSE

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

Children ages 3 through grade 5 leave for Children in Worship

RESPONSE *Bless All Those Who Nurture Children*

BEACH SPRING
John A Dalles

**Bless all those who nurture children,
Sharing knowledge, showing love,
Who by faithful words and actions
Lead young lives to God above!
Bless all those whose voice and presence,
Deep devotion dignity,
Motivate the church to rev'rence,
Guiding Christ's community!**

**Jesus taught both by example and
With words of lasting worth;
Christ has given ways to sample
Hints of heaven here on earth!
In the same way Christian teachers
Model true humanity,
Demonstrating in their witness
Glimpses of eternity!**

**Bless these lives of dedication—
 Days and seasons, weeks and years,
 Spent in serving congregations,
 Spreading joys and soothing tears!
 Bless these lives so firmly planted
 In the grace the Savior brings
 Flourishing as God has granted,
 Soaring high on Spirit wings!**

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THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE LESSON FROM ACTS Acts 17:22-34

p. 902

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:8-20

p. 459

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter 3:13-22

p. 985

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia VII*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - ia. Al - le -
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - ia!

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*THE GOSPEL LESSON John 14:15-21

p. 877

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia VII*

SERMON “an unknown god”

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

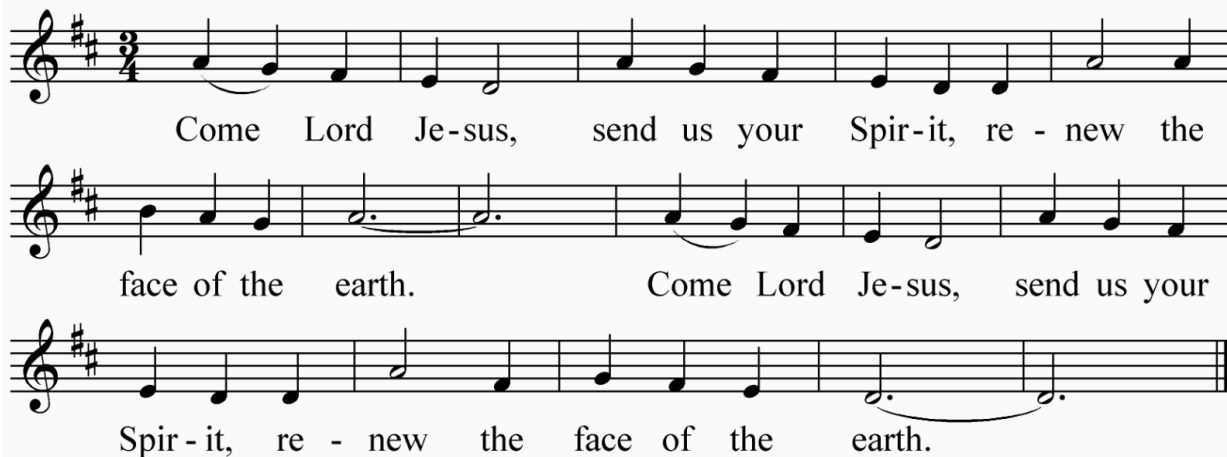
*CONFESSION OF FAITH

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:
that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

1 Cor. 15:1-6; Mark 16:9; Matt. 16:16; Rev. 22:13; John 20:28

LIFE OF HOPE

CALL TO PRAYER *Come, Lord Jesus*



Come Lord Je-sus, send us your Spir-it, re - new the
face of the earth. Come Lord Je-sus, send us your
Spir - it, re - new the face of the earth.

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PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Throughout the prayer the following response will be used:

Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

... ending with the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING *Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, and pass it back.*

Offertory *If Ye Love Me*

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may 'bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.

*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
*praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
*or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*RECESSIONAL HYMN Red #205 *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen*
stanzas 1-3

EARTH AND ALL STARS

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Assisting in worship today are Pastor Gordon Wiersma, preaching; Pastor Jill Russell, liturgist; crucifer processed by the deacons; Amy Wolfe, reader; Chancel Choir directed by Brian Carder; and Rhonda Edgington, organist.

Children ages 3 through grade 5 are invited to leave the sanctuary after the Word with the Children to participate in **Children in Worship**. The story for 3-year-olds and Pre K = *God's Spirit Comes*; kindergarten and grade 1 = *Pentecost/Gifts of the Spirit*; grades 2 and 3 = *A Final Remembering*; grades 4 and 5 = *How Will They Know We Are Christians?* **Children's Bulletins** are available at each door for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12. Please return writing and coloring utensils to the doors after the service.

Worship notes: Throughout the season of Easter, we begin worship with the Procession of the Cross which marks the proclamation "that the earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow the cross' healing peace." The Paschal Candle before the pulpit makes known the light of Christ and Christ's victory over death. The candle is lit through the Easter season & at all baptisms & Christian funerals throughout the year. Throughout this Easter season our liturgy of confession, assurance, & law is replaced with a prayer of adoration & hymn of praise to celebrate the power of God's love & grace through this season of resurrection. Throughout this season we will also stand for the reading of the Gospel as it is read from the center of the congregation. This reminds us of Easter's special focus on the new life given to us in the Risen Jesus Christ and that the Word of God, Jesus Christ, lives in and through us.