

**Glen Echo Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

May 21, 2023

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Pam

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Greeting One Another in Christian Love

(Please return to your seats to worship when the lights flash.)

PRELUDE "When Morning Gilds the Sky" arr. John Carter

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: On Ascension Sunday, Christ rises into heaven from the lower levels of earth.

All: On Ascension Sunday, we can think about rising to a higher level of loving and being.

One: On Ascension Sunday, Christ calls us to higher and more loving ways of thinking and being in this world.

All: On Ascension Sunday, let us contemplate the new ways of being the ascended Christ teaches us.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #222 "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"**

**Christ is risen! Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding, bring a taste of love unknown.**

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**

**Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the first and last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!**

***INVOCATION**

***GLORIA PATRI #35**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Psalm 68:1-10,32-35

Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him. As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God. But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy. Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the Lord— be exultant before him. Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land. O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, Selah, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy. Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, Selah, O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies. Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

PRAYER HYMN #254 "Breathe On Me, Breath Of God"

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.**

SPECIAL READING AND MUSIC "Love Song" Music by Judith

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

SECOND READING 1 Peter 4:12-14

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

SPECIAL READING "Love That Began a Good Work In You" Judith

SERMON

Puppet Show "Jesus, He Is Alive" Julie

Congregation Sing Along Choose two hymns

Puppet Show "I Just Want To Celebrate" Julie

HYMN OF PREPARATION #284 "Gather Us In" vv. 1,4

**Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
Shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in, our spirits inflame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**Not just in buildings, small and confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is God present, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,**

**Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

**Invitation to Commune
Communion Sentences**

Carol

One: God hears our faithful prayers and looks upon us with eyes filled with compassion.

All: Christ advocates on our behalf; through him, we are forgiven.

Prayer of Consecration

(Please partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.)

Communion Music

Reading 4 and "We Honor Each Other"

***INVITATION AND HYMN OF DEDICATION**

#478 "You Are The Seed" (verses 1-3 only, then the chorus)

**You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;
You're a star that will shine in the night;
You are the yeast and a small grain of salt,
A beacon to glow in the dark.
You are the dawn that will bring a new day;
You're the wheat that will bear golden grain;
You are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,
My witnesses where'er you go.**

**You are the flame that will lighten the dark,
Sending sparkles of hope, faith, and love;
You are the shepherds to lead the whole word
Through valleys and pastures of peace.
You are the friend that I chose for myself,
The work that I want to proclaim/
You are the new kingdom built on a rock
Where justice and truth always reign.**

**You are the life that will nurture the plant;
You're the waves in a turbulent sea;
Yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,
A new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a city to hide,
Nor a mountain can cover its might;
May your good deeds show a world in despair
A path that will lead all to God.**

**Go, my friends, go to the world,
Proclaiming love to all,
Messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness,
From the dead I arose;
"Lo, I'll be with you forever,
Till the end of the world."**

(Please be seated for the Postlude.)

POSTLUDE "The Light of the World Is Jesus" arr. Mark Hayes

**Please stand, if you can.*

Portions of the worship service were adapted from:

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year. Scifres, Mary and Beu, B.J., Editors. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2022.

News in the Pews

Upcoming Schedule: The following Pulpit Supply ministers will lead worship services on the following days:

May 28, June 11, June 18: The Reverend Dr. Tim Diebel

June 4: The Reverend McKinna Daugherty

Who to Contact: If you have general concerns or questions, please contact our President, Kathleen. If you have pastoral concerns, please contact our Elder Chair, Rosemarie.

Good Fellowship: The Good Fellowship dinner in May will be on Friday the 26th. We'll be meeting at the Drake Diner at 6:00 PM.

Vacation: Josh, our Administrative Assistant, will be on vacation until Tuesday, May 22nd.

From the Property Committee: A Leaf-Free Gutter system was installed on Monday, May 15th by K-Guard of Iowa. No more cleaning gutters using ladders.

Newsletter Articles Needed: We are looking for someone to write a short article for the Christian Echo newsletter. Articles should be around five paragraphs and can be about anything you wish to share with the congregation.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

MAY 21 – 27, 2023

Sunday	Worship Coffee Fellowship in Lounge	10:15 AM After church
Monday	Office Closed	
Friday	Good Fellowship @ Drake Diner	6:00 PM

Today's Serving Schedule

Accompanist:	Judith Henry
Deacon:	Dorothy
Elder:	Carol
Videographer:	Teresa
Worship Leader:	Pam

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