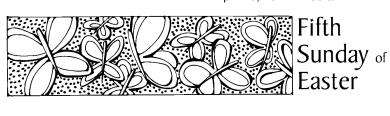


Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

April 28, 2024 11:00 a.m.



PRELUDE Prelude on St Denio

R. Lau

HYMN TO JOY

R. Goodson

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

INTROIT Christ Arose! R. Lowery, arr. A. Hill

CALL TO WORSHIP

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #289 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess that your ways are so much more loving than our ways. We are aware that we are near-sighted and self-concerned. Forgive us Lord, when we create our own paths while missing out on your directions. Forgive us when we get angry at life's diversions when they might actually be your Spirit leading us beyond ourselves. Forgive us when we refuse to be sidetracked by your Spirit to touch the heart of another. Forgive us when we determine whom we will care for and whom we bypass. Forgive us when we resist your invitation to break out of our small circles into your much larger one. We confess that we are just learning what it means to truly surrender to the Holy Spirit's leading. Help us to lift our eyes to a farther horizon

and a broader vision.

We know that we will find you there.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

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 TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 56:1-8 Pages 761-762, 1st half of the NRSV Bible Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

LITANY

One: It's me, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
Many: Your arms of love encompass me.
One: It's my neighbour, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
Many: Your arms of love encompass my neighbour.
One: It's the stranger, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
Many: Your arms of love encompass the stranger.
One: It's the whole world, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
All: Your arms of love encompass the world.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #492 Spirit of the Living God

IVERSON

M. Adria

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN OF MEDITATION #480 Open My Eyes, That I May See OPEN MY EYES

SECOND TESTAMENT READING

Acts 8:26-40 Pages 131-132, 2nd half of the NRSV Bible Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Allan Effa

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Offertory

Meditation on Finding Hope M. Logozar

*New Doxology Let's praise God for each good thing. All creation, shout and sing! Praise three Persons, yet one Love: Maker, Saviour, Holy Dove! Amen. *Prayer of Gratitude

*HYMN FOR THE JOURNEY

#571 Christ, You Call Us All to Service IN BABILONE

THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

*The Sending of the Community *Congregational Amen

The service of the church into the world - - begins again this week

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare on "For All the Saints"

P. Fey

*Please stand, as you are able

We are grateful for those who serve with us today: Writing Prayers & Leading Worship - Cheryl & Gary Krueger; Prayers of the People - Jay Buhler; Scripture Reading - Alex Bayne, Esther Steeves; Guest Organist - Jane Fagnan; Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-625688. All rights reserved.

FBC Ministry Team:

Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato, Senior Minister Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach (on Sabbatical) Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music Jerrold Eilander, Organist / Choir Accompanist

As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us care for one another. — FBC Council