

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

MAY 9, 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Magnificat*

The Canticle of Mary - Luke 1: 46-55

Marcel Dupré

## CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship the One who crafted creation out of chaos,

**our cries of joy join the anthems of the universe.**

We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice,

**we bring the songs which have echoed in our hearts all week long.**

We gather as the children of God, our joy unbroken in God's love.

**young and old, tone deaf and perfect-pitched lift the new, new songs of faith.**

## HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

SONG OF JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

## CONFESSING OUR SIN

We confess to You, O Christ, that we have not loved as we ought. We have judged, despised, ridiculed, and envied others. We have measured others against metrics that we dare not measure ourselves. We have placed heavy burdens on others, expecting them to lift themselves by their bootstraps, while forgetting our own places of privilege. Forgive us, O Christ, for love ought to level the field, by bringing us down and lifting those from the margins. Forgive us, O Christ, for justice ought to call us into humility and repentance. Forgive us, O Christ, for mercy ought to remind us of Your great love for us. Forgive us, O Christ, that we receive grace and do not extend it. Call us into repentance, and lead us on right paths. In Christ's name, the name of Love, we pray.

*Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

### JOYFUL RESPONSE

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

DARWALL'S 148TH

Come sing, O church, in joy!

Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now

and praise the Lord!

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Nancy Berlin

## GOSPEL READING

John 15:9-17

## MUSICAL OFFERING

## EPISTLE READING

1 John 5:1-6

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND THANKSGIVING FOR LOVE**

For the love that frees us to ask questions and explore, to frame doubts and investigate new possibilities, to build theories and then cross-examine them.

**We thank you, God of adventurous love.**

For the love that enables us to marvel at our own existence, to ponder and remember, recognize our own needs and affirm our own knowledge and purpose.

**We thank you, God of determined love.**

For the love that helps us to communicate with one another, to express trust and respect, share heartaches and visions, to convey love and mercy.

**We thank you, God of reconciling love.**

For the love that inspires us to warmly encourage those around us, to affirm and build up, comfort and enlighten.

**We thank you, God of nurturing love.**

For the love that liberates us to celebrate the world around us in poetry and song, to delight in shapes and colors, intricacies and patterns, awesome forces and deep mysteries.

**We thank you God of visionary love.**

For the love that encourages us to express something of our faith; for creeds and prayers, hymns and readings, discussion groups and sermons.

**We thank you, God of creative love.**

Above all else we thank you for the love that allows us to admit that we have no words in which to adequately describe the process of faith in Christ, the awesome worship of our God, and the holy wonder of the Spirit. We thank you for that point where our love becomes wordless adoration. Through Christ Jesus, who is the pure glory of your loving.

**Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY AND WORLD****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS****Offertory Response**

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*  
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

LAST UNS ERFREUEN

**Prayer of Dedication****HYMN***Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
 The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.  
 Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers.  
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.  
 We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear.  
 And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.  
 When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain;  
 but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.  
 From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;  
 and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

*Fugue on the 'Magnificat'*

Johann Pachelbel



### Notes on Today's Music

The Opening Voluntary and The Benediction in Music are settings of verses of the Magnificat - *My soul magnifies the Lord* - from Luke 1:46-55, also referred to as *The Canticle of Mary* or *Mary's Song of Praise*.

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971) was a French organist, composer, and pedagogue. Born at Rouen into a musical family, Marcel Dupré was a child prodigy. His father Albert Dupré was organist in Rouen and a friend of Aristide Cavaillé-Coll, who built an organ in the family house when Marcel was 14 years old. He entered the Paris Conservatoire in 1904, where he studied with some of the most famous French organists and composers. In 1914, Dupré won the Grand Prix de Rome for his cantata, *Psyché*. Twelve years later, he was appointed professor of organ performance and improvisation at the Paris Conservatoire, a position he held until 1954.

Dupré became famous for performing more than 2,000 organ recitals throughout Australia, the United States, Canada and Europe, which included a recital series of 10 concerts of the complete works of Bach in 1920 (Paris Conservatoire) and 1921 (Palais du Trocadéro), both performed entirely from memory.

The well-known melody of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" was created by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) to provide a choral setting of J. C. F. von Schiller's poem "An die Freude" (To Joy) as the final movement of his *Ninth Symphony*. The text was authored specifically for this tune by Henry van Dyke (1852-1933), a prominent Presbyterian pastor, author, educator, and diplomat.