

# Sunday, May 4, 2025 – 9:30 am

## Third Sunday of Easter

**TODAY'S FOCUS: The Risen Christ.** The angels sing that Jesus is worthy of power, wealth, wisdom, might, honor, glory and blessing. Isn't that why we worship? If not, why not?

**PRELUDE** — Anneke Toomey

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** — Lin

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**OPENING HYMN** TFWs #2022 "Great Is the Lord"

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.  
Great is the Lord, he faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.  
Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.  
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:  
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:  
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

**CALL TO WORSHIP (from Revelation 1:4-6)** — Diana Murray

One: Grace and peace to you from our God, who is and was, and is to come.

**Many: Let God's praise be sung!**

One: Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, firstborn and ruler of the kings of the earth.

**Many: Let the echo of praise resound!**

One: To the one who loved us and freed us from our sins by his blood, all glory and dominion forever and ever.

**Many: Let thanksgiving abound!**

One: For great is our God —

**ALL: And greatly to be praised!**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Revelation 1:7-13, 16b — Diana Murray

<sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So, it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. <sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I was in the spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, saying, “Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

<sup>12</sup> Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest... <sup>16b</sup> and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

**OPENING PRAYER** — Lin

**HYMN**

TFWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** — Sharon Goldade

**SCRIPTURE: Revelation 5:11-14** — Diana Murray

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

<sup>12</sup> singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” <sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” <sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshipped.

**MESSAGE**

“The Sound of Angels”

Rev. Lin Cheek

**RESPONSIVE HYMN**

UMH #369 "Blessed Assurance"

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

**REFRAIN:** This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, vision of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **REFRAIN**

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my savior am happy and blessed;  
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **REFRAIN**

**OFFERTORY** — Lin Cheek*"Days of Elijah" (Please sing the Refrain with me!!)*

**REFRAIN:** Behold he comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.  
Lift your voice, it's the year of jubilee and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

**DOXOLOGY**

UMH #94

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** — Diana Murray

**All: Gracious God, accept all that we offer you in our time of worship: songs, prayers, praise, thanksgiving, and these gifts. All we have is yours, even our very lives. Transform the gifts we bring today into food for the hungry, rest for the weary, and faith for those who struggle to believe. In the light and love of Christ we pray. Amen.**

**COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

One: The Lord be with you,

**Many: and also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts,

**Many: we lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: We give our thanks and praise ... and celebrate the promise of the living Christ among us.

**Many: We are ready!**

One: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty.

**Many: We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come!**

One: This morning, we remember ... These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

One: Let us pray: Come, Holy Spirit of God ... the one who taught us to pray, saying:

**All: 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, forever. Amen.**

### **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

*In the United Methodist Church, all are welcome to share in Communion, and all means all. Please come forward when invited by the usher and eat the bread, then drink the cup. For the convenience of all, we use non-alcoholic grape juice and also provide gluten free wafers. When you return to your seat, please take time to pray for those on the prayer list in the bulletin. If you would prefer to receive communion in the pew, please let the usher know and the elements will be brought to you.*

### **RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

One: The body of Christ, given for you.

**Many: Amen.**

One: The cup of the new covenant, poured out for you.

**Many: Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION — Diana Murray**

**All: Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to comfort the broken hearted, to free those imprisoned by the trials of life, and to love the lonely ones. Grant us strength for our work and courage to proclaim in all we say and do your good news in Christ Jesus, our hope and salvation. Amen!**

*Adapted from "Responsive Communion Liturgy" by Rev. John A. Werley, pastor of First Congregational Church of Malone, New York. Used with permission.*

### **CLOSING HYMN**

UMH #162 "Alleluia, Alleluia"

**REFRAIN:** Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.

1 Jesus is Lord o'er all the earth. He is the King of creation. **REFRAIN**

2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. **REFRAIN**

3. We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. **REFRAIN**

4. Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. **REFRAIN**

### **BENEDICTION — Lin**

### **POSTLUDE — Anneke Toomey**

Prelude/Postlude—Anneke  
Song Leader—Janice Bachmann  
Liturgist — Diana Murray

Accomp.—Anneke  
Special Music — N/A  
Children’s Message— Sharon

Offertory—Lin  
Organ — Betsy  
Violin — Rae Ann