

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

TODAY'S FOCUS: COMFORT: This text is used for comfort at funerals, reminding those who grieve that there will be no more death, mourning, crying or pain. But let's not lose sight of the part where John identifies Jesus as God on earth, the Alpha and the Omega. There's a lot of theology going on here!

PRELUDE — Anneke Toomey

INTROIT — Scott Anderson

"Comfort Ye"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

TFWS #2008 "Let All Things Now Living"

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, Who guideth us on to the end of our
days. His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'Til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

2. His law he enforces; the stars in their courses, the sun in his orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing, with glad adoration a song let us raise,
Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 148* — Bonnie Clark

One: People of God, praise the Lord!

Many: Praise the Lord!

One: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

Many: Praise the Lord!

One: Praise God, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars!

Many: Praise the Lord!

One: Praise God, you wild animals and cattle, and you creeping things and flying birds!

Many: Praise the Lord!

One: Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Many: Praise the Lord!

One: Let all creation praise the name of our God, whose name alone is exalted; whose splendor is over all of earth and heaven.

Many: Praise the Lord!

All: Hallelujah!

OPENING PRAYER — Lin

SPECIAL MUSIC — Rinn Choir

“Out of the Depths I Cry to You”

HYMN

TFWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

CHILDREN’S STORY — Lin

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 21:1-7 — Bonnie Clark

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

MESSAGE

“God Incarnate”

Rev. Lin Cheek

RESPONSIVE HYMN

UMH #171 "Something About That Name" (sing twice)

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, there's just something about that name.

Master, Savior, Jesus, like the fragrance after the rain;

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, let all Heaven and earth proclaim

Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but there's something about that name.

OFFERTORY — Scott Anderson, Shelly Anderson, Lin Cheek, Anneke Toomey "Be Still My Soul"

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #94

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** — Bonnie Clark

ALL: Holy God, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for all you have given us: for the means to support ourselves and others, for the wisdom to manage our resources with care, and for the special talent each one of us has that lets us contribute to your mission and ministry in the world. Teach us to not only use our gifts wisely, but to also share them generously. May our thoughtful and steady stewardship bring the love of Christ to a world in need, and may all the work we do in your name be acceptable to you. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER — Lin

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.

***CLOSING HYMN**

UMH #38 "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

1. Love divine all love's excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down

Fix in us your humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us, with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!

Let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest.

Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;

Suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE — Anneke Toomey

Prelude/Postlude—Anneke Toomey
Offertory—Scott, Shelly, Anneke, Lin
Organ — Betsy
Special Music — Rin Choir
Liturgist — Bonnie Clark

Accomp.—Anneke Toomey
Song Leader— Janice
Violin — Rae Ann
Introit — Scott “Comfort Ye”
Children’s Message— Lin