



# A Place to Call Home: All are Welcome

Sunday, April 14th, 2024, 10:30am

Southminster Presbyterian Church

## GATHERING

### Chiming of the Hour

#### Prelude

**“These Things Did Thomas Count as Real”**

Steven Wentz

#### Welcome

Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

#### Introit

**“Now God Be Praised”**

M. Vulpious

#### Call to Worship

**Janet Nebrig**

When fear and doubts stroll through our doors:

**God stands beside us, whispering of peace.**

When our fears lead us to locking others out:

**Jesus speaks to our troubled hearts.**

When we pull away and hide even from love:

**God’s Spirit touches our wounds and heals us fully.**

#### \* Hymn 260

**“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

HYFRYDOL

*1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone!  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of every nation  
has redeemed us by his blood.”*

*2 Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us;  
faith believes nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise:  
"I am with you evermore"?*

*3 Alleluia! Bread of angels,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's redeemer, hear our plea  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.*

*4 Alleluia! King eternal,  
Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heaven your throne.  
As within the veil you entered,  
robed in flesh, our great high priest;  
here on earth both priest and victim  
in the eucharistic feast.*

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Risen Savior, we confess that we live as if You are not among us now. We do not see Your face in those we pass by on the street. We do not see You amongst the rubble and ruins of war. We do not see You in those who beg of us. We do not see You in those we have left out, unintentionally or intentionally. We have failed to remember that when we care for the most vulnerable among us, we are caring for You. We have made You into our own image, instead of seeing Your image reflected among the ones most in need. Call us into accountability. Guide us into repentance and repair. Help us to seek restoration and forgiveness for where we have failed, so that we might live into Your true peace here on earth as it is in heaven. In Your name we pray.**

## **Silence**

### **Assurance of Grace**

**Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**\* Sung Response**

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the living Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, sing praise to His name!*

**\* Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Reading**

**Psalm 4:6-8**

<sup>6</sup>There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" <sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. <sup>8</sup>I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

**"With a Voice of Singing"**

Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.  
The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name,  
make his praise be to be glorious.  
With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

**Second Reading**

**Luke 24:36b-48**

<sup>36</sup>While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the

Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

**\* Hymn 543**

**“God, be the Love to Search and Keep Me”**

GREEN TYLER

*1 God, be the love to search and keep me;  
God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
God, be the strength to now uphold me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*2 Bind to myself the Name of Holy,  
great cloud of witnesses enfold;  
prophets, apostles, angels witness:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*3 Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,  
flashing of lightning, strength of wind,  
depth of the sea to soil of planet:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*4 Walking behind to hem my journey,  
going ahead to light my way,  
and from beneath, above, and all ways:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

**\* Affirmation of Faith**

from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

## EUCCHARIST

Offering

Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed

\* **Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Invitation to the Table**

**Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

## SENDING

\* **Hymn 703**

**"Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"**

ST. CATHERINE

*1 Jesus, thy boundless love to me  
no thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
O knit my thankful heart to thee,  
and reign without a rival there!  
Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live; myself to thee entirely give.*

*2 O grant that nothing in my soul  
may dwell, but thy pure love alone;  
O may thy love possess me whole,  
my joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
All coldness from my heart remove;  
may every act, word, thought be love.*

*3 O Love, how gracious is thy way!  
All fear before thy presence flies;  
care, anguish, sorrow melt away  
where'er thy healing beams arise.  
O Jesus, nothing may I see,  
nothing desire, or seek, but thee.*

**\* Charge and Benediction**

**\* Choral Response**

**“Hallelujah, Amen”**

GF Handel

**\* Postlude**

**“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”**

Wilbur Held