

**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

(\*=**please stand if you are able**)

**Prelude (A time for Silence and Reflection)**

**Welcome**

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

**Opening Prayer**

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; Let the many coastlands be glad!  
The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the people behold his glory.  
Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

**Opening Hymn** GTG#390 "Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord"

**Call to Confession**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ even prays for us. With such assurance, we need not fear confession but simply draw near to our maker in candor.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world, and is head of the church, his body.**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance Pardon**

The saying is true and worthy of full acceptance that Christ died to save sinners. Siblings, believe the promise of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

\***Gloria Patri** STF#2011

"We Sing of Your Glory"  
We sing of your glory, we praise you again,  
for you are eternal. Amen. Amen  
We sing of your power and honor again,  
for you are eternal. Amen. Amen.

**Prayer of Illumination**

O God, as we fully experience the good news of Easter and look toward the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, open our hearts and minds to your Word dwelling within us, calling us to unity in Christ.

**Scripture Reading**

2 Kings 2:1-15

Now the Lord was going to take Elijah up to heaven in a windstorm, and Elijah and Elisha were leaving Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, because the Lord has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The group of prophets from Bethel came out to Elisha. These prophets said to Elisha, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master away from you today?" Elisha said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!" Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here, because the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went to Jericho. The group of prophets from Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master away from you today?" He said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!" Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, because the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So both of them went on together. Fifty members from the group of prophets also went along, but they stood at a distance. Both Elijah and Elisha stood beside the Jordan River. Elijah then took his coat, rolled it up, and hit the water. Then the water was divided in two! Both of them crossed over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "What do you want me to do for you before I'm taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Let me have twice your spirit." Elijah said, "You've made a difficult request. If you can see me when I'm taken from you, then it will be yours. If you don't see me, it won't happen." They were walking along, talking, when suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses appeared and separated the two of them. Then Elijah went to heaven in a windstorm. Elisha was watching, and he cried out, "Oh, my father, my father! Israel's chariots and its riders!" When he could no longer see him, Elisha took hold of his clothes and ripped them in two. Then Elisha picked up the coat that had fallen from Elijah. He went back and stood beside the banks of the Jordan River. He took the coat that had fallen from Elijah and hit the water. He said, "Where is

the Lord, Elijah's God?" And when he hit the water, it divided in two! Then Elisha crossed over. The group of prophets from Jericho saw him from a distance. They said, "Elijah's spirit has settled on Elisha!" So they came out to meet him, bowing down before him.

L: This is the word God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**

"It is I"

**Scripture Reading:**

Acts 16:16-34

One day, when we were on the way to the place for prayer, we met a slave woman. She had a spirit that enabled her to predict the future. She made a lot of money for her owners through fortune-telling. She began following Paul and us, shouting, "These people are servants of the Most High God! They are proclaiming a way of salvation to you!" She did this for many days. This annoyed Paul so much that he finally turned and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I command you to leave her!" It left her at that very moment. Her owners realized that their hope for making money was gone. They grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the officials in the city center. When her owners approached the legal authorities, they said, "These people are causing an uproar in our city. They are Jews who promote customs that we Romans can't accept or practice." The crowd joined in the attacks against Paul and Silas, so the authorities ordered that they be stripped of their clothes and beaten with a rod. When Paul and Silas had been severely beaten, the authorities threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to secure them with great care. When he received these instructions, he threw them into the innermost cell and secured their feet in stocks. Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. All at once there was such a violent earthquake that it shook the prison's foundations. The doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose. When the jailer awoke and saw the open doors of the prison, he thought the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul shouted loudly, "Don't harm yourself! We're all here!" The jailer called for some lights, rushed in, and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He led them outside and asked, "Honorable masters, what must I do to be rescued?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your entire household." They spoke the Lord's word to him and everyone else in his house. Right then, in the middle of the night, the jailer welcomed them and washed their wounds. He and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. He brought them into his home and gave them a meal. He was overjoyed because he and everyone in his household had come to believe in God.

L: This is the word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

"Don't harm yourself!"

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

**Hymn** GTG#825

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

**Words of Gratitude**

Jesus prayed:

As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. Living in the world, we gather the gifts we have received, and bring them before God, offering back what we have, so that the world may know the love of Christ and become one.

**RESPOND IN GRACE**

**Offertory**

"Bring a Gift of Love"

Bring a Gift of Love, Bring a Gift of Love, Bring a Gift of Love today.  
Bring an offering to our Lord and King. Tell the world "He is the Way!"  
Bring a Gift of Love, Bring a Gift of Love, Bring a Gift of Love today.  
In this quiet hour of worship, Bring a Gift of Love.

\* **Doxology** STF#2081

"Thank you, Jesus"

Thank you, Jesus, amen! Thank you, Jesus, amen!  
Thank you, Jesus, amen! Alleluia! Amen!

As Elisha took up Elijah's mantle, we present these gifts that through them the church may take up the mantle of Christ and proclaim his Word to the world through acts of justice and love. Amen.

**Prayers of the People** (See insert)

\***Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn** GTG#300

"We are One in the Spirit"

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

God is Good! **All the time!** All the Time! **God is Good!**

As you follow the journey of discipleship into the post- Resurrection world, remember that Christ prays for you, and draws you into the very heart of God. May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, remain with you always. Amen.

**The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you**

**Amen**

**Postlude**

**SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022**



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MINISTERS  
All the Members

***“A multicultural congregation worshipping together  
where Jesus Christ is Lord; where men, women, and  
children share in leadership; and where the strength  
of our fellowship builds bridges to the community.”***

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## **EVENTS HAPPENING IN 2022**

- In person Hybrid worship at 11AM
- English Bible Study Thursday's at 11:00AM via Zoom.
- Spanish Bible Study will be Wednesday's at 10:00AM.
- Prayer Time on Friday's at 1:00PM via zoom.
- Please submit your picture for the Church directory. If you need more information contact Pastor Jeniffer or Lindsay Wilkens.

-Zoom worship Service at 11:00AM

By Computer/Por Computadora

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/870270865>

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,870270865# US (New York)

+13126266799,,870270865# US (Chicago)

By Phone/Por teléfono

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/870270865>

## **Prayers and Praise**

Please pray for Everyone in leadership

Please pray for Keeping Communities Safe

Please pray for Children/ families

Please pray for The Boateng Family

Please pray for The Otu's family

Please pray for The Supina/Ruess family

Please pray for The Sevilla's family

Please pray for Those who harm

Please pray for Peace in the middle of violence

Please pray for The Dyckman's Family

Please pray for The Ozuna Family

Please pray for The Reda's family

Please pray for People struggling with cancer. For healing

Please pray for For the physical and spiritual shape of our nation

Please pray for For leaders, people in a position of authority

Please Pray for Lima family

Please pray for Israel and Palestine

Please Pray for the Denzer Family

Please pray for Heather Blenkinsopp

## **PRAISE SONGS AND HYMNS**

### **“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord”**

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!  
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!

### **“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”**

*Refrain: Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.  
Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.*

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. O, *[Refrain]*

If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home,  
tell all my friends I’m coming too, coming for to carry me home. O, *[Refrain]*

The brightest day that ever I saw, coming for to carry me home,  
when Jesus washed my sins away, coming for to carry me home. O, *[Refrain]*

I’m sometimes up and sometimes down, coming for to carry me home,  
but still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home. O, *[Refrain]*

### **“We are One in the Spirit” GTG#300**

We are one in the Sprit; we are one in the Lord;  
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

*Refrain: And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.*

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land: *(Refrain)*

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
We will work with each other; we will work side by side.  
And we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride: *(refrain)*

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: *(refrain)*

## Prayers of the People

Our God, the heavens declare your glory and the firmament shows for the work of your hands. One day tells its tale to another and each night imparts knowledge to the next.

The sun, the moon, the seas, the dry lands, the plants that enrich the earth, the creatures that swim and fly and run, all these gifts of your creation, although they have no words or language, their sound goes out to all the lands, and their messages to the ends of the earth.

We offer our prayers for the earth and recommit ourselves to honor and protect it. May we hear the cries of creation, and see in its power and beauty your own image, and your deep love for what you have made.

May we love all of your creation — every grain of sand, every leaf, every ray of light, ancient trees, pollinating bees, and all animals.

May we not trouble the earth's life, or waste its resources, or abuse its beauty.

May we look on the natural world with reverence and acknowledge that we are small in the vastness of the universe.

We know that for you, O God, all life is like an ocean, all is flowing and blending, and that when we withhold any measure of love from anything in your universe, we withhold that same measure of love from you.

Lord God, as we pray, we bring our sisters and brothers, strangers and neighbors into your presence. We rejoice with those who rejoice today: those who have found love, those who have been healed of disease, those who look forward to marriage, or the birth of children, those who have meaningful work, and happy families, those who have safe and happy homes, those who worship you in freedom and the beauty of holiness.

And we weep with those who weep today:

those who are sick in their bodies, their minds, their spirits, those who have lost beloved sons and daughters and fathers and mothers to gun violence, those who have lost jobs, or who cannot find meaningful work and struggle for ways to use their gifts, those who flee their own lands and homes, seeking refuge, and the strength and grace of a new community.

We weep today for and with the people of Ukraine who face unimaginable loss and suffering as their cities and home and families and lives are destroyed by brutal violence. Bring them peace.

Be close to all who suffer this day, O God. And even in the midst of suffering, we offer the gratitude that is in our hearts: gratitude for our lives, for our church community, for the freedom to worship, for the food and shelter and friendship that sustain us each day.

By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity, and keep it faithful to your Word, so that, breaking bread together, we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, now and forever. We pray these things in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying, "Our Father..."