

Westminster Presbyterian Church

April 28, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

"Simple Gifts"

arr. Joseph P. Martin

WELCOME

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION "Bergere Captive"

by Pierre Octave Ferroud Gia Evans, flutist

You may come forward and light a candle to represent the prayer you bring today.

INTROIT

"Bind Us Together" #2226 (*Sing the Faith*) *Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us together,*

Lord, bind us together with love.

There is only one God; There is only one King; There is only one body, That is why we sing.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together with love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from liturgylink.net, adapted)

We come to this place where God pours out love on us. We join our voices in praise, as we set aside our fears. We gather as people who seek to follow Jesus, So we might walk the paths of service hand in hand. We open our hearts to the gifts of the Spirit, So that love and grace might be the fruit we bear.

*HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #376 (<u>Hymnal</u>) *Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down, Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!* *Jesus, thou are all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.*

Breathe, O breath thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest; Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive; Suddenly return, and never, nevermore 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.

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

Children age 4 through 3rd grade may go to Children & Worship

PRAYER

(from Abingdon Worship Manual, 2012, adapted)

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace.

Nurture us with your Word and Spirit, that our lives may bear good fruit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness faithfulness and discipline. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love.

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*please stand if able

SCRIPTURE READING	1 John 4:7-21	
SPECIAL MUSIC	"Aubade"	Libby Larsen Gia Evans, flute
SCRIPTURE READING	John 15:1-8	

SERMON "Resurrection Love" Pastor Jerry

HYMN "O Blessed Spring" #2076 (*Sing the Faith*) *O blessed spring, where Word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine: Here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.*

Through summer heat and youthful years, uncertain faith, rebellious tears, Sustained by Christ's infusing rain, the boughs will shout for joy again.

When autumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their heavy harvest hold, Then through us warm, the Christ will move with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.

Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery:

PRAYER

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

*HYMN "Christ Is Alive" #108 (Hymnal) Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains, But daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the God-head reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE "Christ Beside Me" #2166 (*Sing the Faith*) Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me – King of my heart. Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me – never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me —shield in the strife; Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising — light of my life.

Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me – King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me – never to part.

POSTLUDE

"Go Out"

arr. Phillip P Martin

About today's special music: Gia Evans is a recent graduate of WMU with a dual degree in Flute Performance and Spanish. She hopes to continue her education to acquire a Masters in Music at La Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofia in Spain. We welcome Gia and thank her for sharing the gift of music with us this morning.