

# Celebration of Worship

## Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018

9:30 A.M.

We welcome you to worship. We are glad that you are here! Nursery and Preschool care is available if you need it. The Young and Young at Heart are welcomed to the front early on for a special time in the service. Please sign the Friendship Pads so that we can get to know you better, and join us for coffee in the Narthex after the service.

### Thought for Reflection

*“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else. Christianity is not fundamentalism or certitude – it is not a rabbit’s foot, securing my safety and good fortune. It is not primarily a set of doctrinal claims, but a lens. It is a means of seeing.”*

C.S. Lewis

WELCOME

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken*  
Camryn Zeitvogel - Flute

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 4* p. 425

\* Please stand, if you are able.

\* HYMN *Christ Is Alive!* # 108

INVOCATION

WORDS FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Message

Prayer

*(Children and Youth are dismissed for Sunday School.)*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Acts 3:12-19* p. 887

ANTHEM *Hymn of Promise* arr. Thompson  
Glory Bells

EPISTLE LESSON *I John 3:1-7* p. 990

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON *I Love You the Best!*  
Pastor Larry De Vuyst

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsively)

Women: We believe in God –

who brings forth life from death, joy from sorrow, blessing out of disaster;

who meets us behind our closed hearts and speaks a word of peace; who is known in the simple act of breaking bread, gathering around a table;

who never forgets our name, who feels our pain, who renews our lives from the inside out.

Men: We believe in the risen Christ –

who bears wounds so that we might not hide from our own;

who is present to us in our loneliness, our fear, our doubt;

who embraced the hard questions, faced death’s door, and walked ahead into every experience so we might know that we have a companion on the way.

All: We believe in the Holy Spirit –

who is as close as the air we breathe;

who inspires the church to be a beacon of light, an oasis of peace and a fountain of joy;

who blows free in the wind, touching souls, chasing away the blues, setting loose an alleluia.

**We shall live as people of God!**

\* HYMN *More Love to Thee, O Christ* # 359

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *But the Lord Is Mindful of His Own* arr. Löhr  
Chancel Choir

But the Lord is mindful of his own; He remembers His children.

Bow down before Him, ye mighty, for the Lord is near us!

Yea, the Lord is mindful of His own; He remembers his children

\* DOXOLOGY (# 592) AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts/debtors)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* HYMN *Come, Risen Lord* # 503

\* BENECTION

\* POSTLUDE

\* PRAYER UNDER THE CROSS