

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Cathy Gumpert, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 13, 2008

11:00 a.m.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

+Announcements

Prelude

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Psalm 23

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for His name's sake.

People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff— they comfort me.

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

ALL: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*+Hymn of Praise

"This is the Day"/"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Dykes/Heber

This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

We will rejoice (we will rejoice) and be glad in it (and be glad in it)

This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

We will rejoice (we will rejoice) and be glad in it (and be glad in it)

This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea!

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

We will rejoice (we will rejoice) and be glad in it (and be glad in it)
This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day (this is the day) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made)

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 23

Loving Shepherd, You watch over us by day and by night. You are mindful of our needs for shelter, for food, for water, for quiet, for loving-kindness. We thank You for Your ever-present help, even while we also admit that too often we don't accept that help. We prefer to wander off in our own ways. We allow false idols to distract us. We compete with one another for resources, forgetting that You provide enough for all. We are sorry, Lord. Restore us to the light of Your presence, so that we are mindful of Your loving guidance in all places, at all times. Give us the courage to share this wonderful message of love and salvation with all who will listen, as we work together for Your will to be done here on earth, as it is already done in heaven. We ask this in Jesus' strong name. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

Summary of the Law

*+Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Sermon

*+Hymn of Preparation

"God Beyond Knowledge"

Bennett/SLANE

God beyond knowledge, yet close to us here, our touchstone, our lodestar
in faith and in fear;

Your presence we know in the dark before dawn as courage is kindled and hope is reborn.

God without limits yet sharing our flesh, You speak for the silenced, release the oppressed
And call us to follow, in all things to prove the tools of Your Spirit, the signs of Your love.

Lord, to Your purpose our living we pledge: to go beyond comfort and stand at life's edge,
To love and to live without safety, and so to shape and inhabit Your Kingdom of hope.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament

Jeremiah 31:2-7

New Testament

Matthew 28:16-20

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon THUS SAYS THE LORD

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering *(Please fill out the red pew pads at this time. Remember to PRINT your name.)*

Offertory

*Doxology
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below, praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Dedication of Gifts

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Community and The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication "Bind Us Together"/"Blest Be the Tie that Binds" Fawcett/Naegeli

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.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we asunder part it gives us inward pain.

But we shall still be joined in heart and hope to meet again.

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.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Bind Us Together"/"Blest Be the Tie that Binds" *repeat last verse*

Postlude

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Organized 1719

April 13, 2008



Above all, we exist to worship God. Through the grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will make the love of Jesus Christ tangible by caring for one another and those around us and will go out into the world to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ

The Rev. Cathy Gumpert, Pastor
The Rev. Donald A. McCabe, Pastor Emeritus