

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Cathy Gumpert, Pastor

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4, 2008

11:00 a.m.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

+Announcements

Prelude "Adagio" Tomaso Albinoni

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship Psalm 68

Leader: Let God rise up, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee before Him. As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.

People: But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

Leader: Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides upon the clouds—His name is the LORD— be exultant before Him.

People: Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in His holy habitation. God gives the desolate a home to live in; He leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

Leader: O God, when You went out before Your people, when You marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

People: Rain in abundance, O God, You showered abroad; You restored Your heritage when it languished; Your flock found a dwelling in it; in Your goodness, O God, You provided for the needy.

Leader: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the LORD, O Rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, He sends out his voice, His mighty voice. Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies.

People: Awesome is God in His sanctuary, the God of Israel; He gives power and strength to His people.

ALL: Blessed be God!

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 #6 (RIL) "Praise to the Living God!" LEONI

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 68

Almighty God, as Your righteous people, we exult before You, as we worship You and sing praises to You. And yet, sometimes we don't look like Your people at all. Our behavior does not always reflect righteousness. Sometimes we are self-righteous. Sometimes we close our eyes to the needs of the orphan, the widow, the desolate. It's not that we don't care, Lord – but sometimes we are overwhelmed. We are sorry, Lord, because we are trusting in our own strength, and not in Your strength. Help us to remember that You are the Source of our strength. Empower us to take Your saving grace out into the world, following Jesus, our Rock and our Redeemer, for it is in His strong name that we pray. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

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

Words of Assurance Romans 7:21-25

Summary of the Law Romans 13:11-14

*+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 Kim Cole

*+Hymn of Preparation #359 (RIL) "Jesus, Thy Mercies are Untold" ST. AGNES

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament Exodus 24:9-18 p. 62

New Testament Acts 1:12-14 p. 884

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon THE PREPARATION OF BUILDING ON A ROCK

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made Man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Organized 1719

May 4, 2008

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

Offertory "How Majestic is Your Name" M. W. Smith

*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

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (see insert)

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Community and The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing to Thy Praise" ST. DENIO
 Eternal, unchanging, we sing to Thy praise;
 Thy mercies are endless, and righteous Thy ways;
 Thy servants proclaim the renown of Thy name,
 Who rulest omnipotent, ever the same.
 Again we rejoice in the world Thou hast made,
 Thy mighty creation in beauty arrayed;
 We thank Thee for life, and we praise Thee for joy,
 For love and for hope that no pow'r can destroy.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing to Thy Praise" ST. DENIO
 We praise Thee for Jesus, our Master and Lord,
 The might of His Spirit, the truth of His Word,
 His comfort in sorrow, His patience in pain,
 The faith sure and steadfast that Jesus shall reign

Postlude

*Congregation (those who are able) will please rise.
 +Latecomers and returning worshipers may be seated.



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