

Order of Worship
April 11, 2021

Reflection:

In a time of universal deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act.
—Unknown

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Out of our abundance, let us be generous.

All: As we share our resources, may our community grow.

One: In God's light, we outgrow the darkness of our old habits.

All: Our hands open to receive and to give.

One: As God's truth comes alive within us, we share that too.

All: For we share this truth with love.

One: For our life of faith is a life of truth, of mercy, of union.

All: Let all believers be one in heart and mind.

Hymn BH 615

Enter in the Realm of God

Filipino Folk Melody

Enter in the realm of God. It has come, and yet will be.
It is known, and yet unknown. Christ revealed its mystery.

God has loved, and so we love, and we give that all may share
In the healing God supplies, in good news that we declare.

Come again, O Christ, to rule in that realm that has no end.
May your children everywhere hear your greeting: "Welcome, freind!"

Community Prayer

Draw us forth, God of all creation.

Draw us forward and away from limited certainty into the immense world of your love.

Give us the capacity to, even for a moment, taste the richness of the feast you give us.

Give us the peace to live with mystery, with questions, with doubts.

Help us to experience the resurrection anew with open wonder and an increasing ability
to see you in the people of Easter. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Passing of the Peace

Solo

The Sky Above the Roof

Vaughan Williams, 1908

Text from the French by Paul Verlaine

The sky above the roof
Is calm and sweet
A tree above the roof
Bends in the heat

A bell from out the blue
Drowsily rings
A bird from out the blue
Plaintively sings

Ah God! A life is here,
Simple and fair
Murmurs of strife are here
Lost in the air

Why dost thou weep O heart
Poured out in tears?
What hast thou done O heart,
With thy spent years?

Scripture readings:

Acts 4:32-35

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

1 John 1:5-9

This is the message we have heard from God and declare to you: God is light; in God there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Sermon Title:

Telling the Truth in Love.

Rev. Lee Cruise

Announcements, Offertory Invitation

Solo

Amazing Grace

John Newton, 1779

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home

Pastoral Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Our God, 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.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn BH 391

In the Midst of New Dimensions

Julian Rush, 1985

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways.
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

Benediction