



***During this time of social distancing, we ask that all singing and responsive reading be done from behind a mask.  
Thank you for doing your part to keep yourself and others safe during the pandemic.***

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**Prelude**

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

*James*

**Introit**

*Sing to God!*

*Folts*

**Call to Worship**

**\*Hymn #138**

**Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!**

1. 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!
2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee, though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. 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!

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, for whom a thousand years are but a day, we confess to you our sin. Forgive our fear of death and our lack of obedience. Remind us of your forgiving mercy that is constantly renewed in our lives. Teach us to number our days and to serve you with a heart of wisdom. In Christ's name we pray.**

**\*Silent Prayer of Confession**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**Friends, believe the Good News.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**\*Congregational Response**

*Gloria Patri*

## Welcome and Announcements

### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory**

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

*Scholtes*

**\*Hymn #592**

*The Doxology*

**\*Prayer of Commitment and 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.**

**\*Choral Response**

**Anthem**

*Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

*Moore/Burroughs*

**Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 40:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Time**

**\*Hymn #5**

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
4. At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

**Scripture Reading**

**John 1:19-34**

<sup>19</sup> And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup> So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup> He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." <sup>24</sup> (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

<sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!  
<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

<sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

## Sermon

Rev. Dr. David H. Green

### Jesus at Bethany: John the Baptist

*"He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said.'" (John 1:23)*

## Prayers of the People

### \*Hymn #210

### Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

1. Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
2. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.
3. A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
4. Time, like an ever rolling stream, soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
5. Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

### \*Charge and Benediction

### \*Closing Response

### He Lives

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart.

### \*Postlude

*How Firm a Foundation*

*Whitworth*

\*Please stand if able.

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***Reconnect • Rebuild • Restore***