

Sewickley United Methodist Church

April 7, 2024



**Order of Worship
Second Sunday of Easter
Sacrament of Holy Communion**

PRELUDE..... Erik Kolodziej

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST & GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus said,

People: "Follow me."

Leader: Jesus said,

People: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Leader: Jesus said,

People: "Forgive seventy times seven."

Leader: Jesus said,

People: "Feed my sheep."

Leader: In response, we say:

All: "Here's my heart. Take and seal it. Seal it for thy courts above."

Leader: Let us worship God with all our hearts.

*OPENING HYMN "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Anon. TFWS No. 2158 (v 1, 2 & 3)

1) I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

*Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

2) Through this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. (*Refrain*)

3) When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to Thy shore. (*Refrain*)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

BLESSING OF THE BOOKS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. ¹⁰⁶I've promised it once, and I'll promise it again: I will obey your righteous regulations. ¹⁰⁷I have suffered much, O Lord; restore my life again as you promised. ¹⁰⁸Lord, accept my offering of praise, and teach me your regulations. ¹⁰⁹My life constantly hangs in the balance, but I will not stop obeying your instructions. ¹¹⁰The wicked have set their traps for me, but I will not turn from your commandments. ¹¹¹Your laws are my treasure; they are my heart's delight. ¹¹²I am determined to keep your decrees to the very end.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD "I Surrender All"
J W Van Deventer and W S Weeden No. 354 (v 1, 3 & 4)

1) All to Jesus I surrender; all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.

Refrain: I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

3) All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine;
fill me with thy love and power; truly know that thou art mine. (*Refrain*)

4) All to Jesus I surrender; Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power; let thy blessing fall on me. (*Refrain*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY "I Am the Bread of Life"
Steve Angrisano and Tom Booth Erik Kolodziej and Chad Wolfe

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

*PASTORAL PRAYER

MESSAGE "Here's My Heart"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the table:

One of the first things Jesus did after the resurrection was feed his disciples. The Gospel of John tells us it was a beach fire—bread and fish, cooked over an open flame. Immediately the disciples knew it was Jesus because Jesus was always feeding people! Jesus was always telling the left out and the ignored, the hurting and the hungry, the sick and the hopeful, "I have a seat saved for you."

Friends, that is why we come to this table 2,000 years later. We come to remember. We come to be close. We come to get a taste of the kingdom of God. So come hungry. Come seeking. Come with your wandering heart and your fickle faith and know that Christ has a seat saved for you. Christ always has a seat saved for you, and nothing can ever change that. For this is the joyful feast for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving/ Prayer of the People:

God of second chances, God of grace, meet us here. Just as you met the disciples at the beach, meet us here. Meet us now. Walk toward us and gather us in. For God, like Peter, we have known storms. This week, people in this room have grieved. This week, people in this room have felt overwhelmed by the news cycle and helpless to make a difference. This week, people in this room have been lonely, stressed, or uncertain. You know what our wind and waves look like. You know the nature of our storms, so just as you walked toward Peter, walk toward us.

Meet us here. Meet us now. Gather us in.

Fortunately, like Peter, we have also seen you stop the storms. We have seen your fingerprints in our lives in ways we did not always expect. So with gratitude in our hearts, we come to you today to say thank you.

Thank you for this church family that feels like a home. Thank you for the stars in the sky that remind us of your vastness. Thank you for stories of hope and forgiveness that inspire us to love. And thank you for the unending grace that encircles our wandering hearts.

God, we have been back and forth, to and from, on this journey of faith. For every time that you walked the valley with us, for every time that you have met us on the mountaintop, and for every time you have stayed still while we ran toward you, we give you thanks. **Never stop meeting us here, meeting us now, gathering us in.**

With wandering but grateful hearts, we pray the words your son taught us to pray, saying:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

***PARTING HYMN** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Robert Robinson and Wyeth's Repository of Music, Part Second No. 400 (v 1, 2 & 3)

- 1) Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.
- 2) Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- 3) O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** Erik Kolodziej



FEED MY SHEEP
by Nicolette Peñaranda
Inspired by John 21:1-19

WORSHIP LEADERS

PASTOR	Rev. Hannah M. Loughman
LITURGIST	Kristine Swaney
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....	Erik Kolodziej
CS WORSHIP COORDINATOR	Kelly Herman
A/V	Jack Moffett and Pam Honeychurch
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	Andrea Lewis and Owyn Loughman
NURSERY	Amanda Pelphrey and Sharon Cowden
USHERS.....	Debbie and Joe Consoli