



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day

Second Sunday of Easter
April 8, 2018



Prelude

"Sonatina"

by Clementi

Westminster Peal

Choral Call to Worship:

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

by Donald Fishel

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior...

Gathering as the Children of God

Elder Katherine Koops

One: The joy of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ is with us.

All: We rejoice in the blessing God has poured into our lives.

One: Even though we hear words of doubt, we are called to believe.

**All: Even though the world would draw us back again into darkness,
we focus on the Light.**

One: Thanks be to Christ who gives us the victory.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

† Opening Hymn No. 108

"Christ is Alive"

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Koops

Even though we have come through the joy of Easter and the triumphant Easter songs, yet we doubt, Lord. Like Thomas who walked the Judean countryside with Jesus, we still have trouble believing in the resurrection of Jesus. We easily slip back into the darkness of doubts. We move the joy of Easter into the past and continue in a downward path to confusion. Shine your bright light of joy upon us. Lighten our dark path. Help us to believe, even though we have not seen you, touched your hands and side. Help us to proclaim Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Koops

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

† Response

"Gloria, Gloria"

(hymn no. 576)

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!



Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Ricardo Green

Anthem/Special Music

"Micah 6:6-8: Offertory"

by John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,

Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions,

The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, human, He has shown you what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you,

But to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

John Ness Beck was an American composer who lived in the Midwest from 1930-1987. Beck was a prolific composer and arranger of sacred music and instituted the John Ness Beck Foundation in order to recognize achievement in sacred choral composition and arrangement.

Time with the Children

Rev. Susan Haynes

See children's options on back of bulletin

Scripture Lesson

John 20:19-31

Rev. Haynes

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Believe It or Not!

Rev. Haynes

† **Affirmation of Faith**

From the Heidelberg Catechism

True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which we hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in us by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to us as well, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.

The Heidelberg Catechism, written in 1563, is a Protestant confessional document taking the form of a series of questions and answers, for use in teaching the precepts of Reformed Christian doctrine. Written in Germany, the Catechism was meant to serve as a unifying document between the different strains of European Protestantism.



† **Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Haynes

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

† **Hymn No. 324**

"Open My Eyes"

Church Family Life

Rev. Haynes

Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row. If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the narthex.



Moved by the Spirit

CAC Food Pantry

Elizabeth Small

As we receive communion this morning, the pastor will invite the congregation to partake in the sacrament. Please follow the row in front of you and proceed down the middle aisles. If you prefer gluten free bread, please take from the pastor serving in the middle. When receiving communion, you may respond with "Thanks be to God," "Amen," or in silence. After partaking from the bread and cup, please leave your cup with the elder holding the empty tray and return to your seat up the outer aisles. If you prefer to be served at your seat, please raise your hand and someone will serve you.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks for the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: In every time...join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Blessed are you...the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Pastor: Blessed are you...as we join our voices in the prayer you taught us:

Our Father...(hymnal pg. 16)

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Offering

Offertory

"All Glory Be to God on High"

Rev. Haynes

by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

† **Response**

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

† Prayer of Thanksgiving		Rev. Green
† Closing Hymn No. 151	<i>"Crown Him with Many Crowns"</i>	
† Benediction		Rev. Haynes
† Congregational Response	<i>"Amen"</i>	(hymn no. 587)
† Postlude	<i>"Prelude in G Major BWV 541"</i>	by J.S. Bach

† Those who are able, please stand

Worship Enrichment. Worship Enrichment is led by Carrie Southard at the 11:00 service after the children's time. Children, K - 5th grade, are invited to join Carrie in the chapel for worship enrichment activities. The children will return to their parents during the Hymn following the "Passing of the Peace." Children 4 years and younger who opt to attend 11:00 worship until the children's time, will depart for childcare to Room 120 for the remainder of the service.



MVPC Mission Statement

Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



Giving to MVPC is easy online

<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
 TJ Shirley, Minister of Worship & Arts
 Elizabeth Small, Dir. of Youth Ministry
 Rev. Ricardo Green, Pastor of Spanish Ministries
 Nick Johns-Cooper, Organist

Lillianette Cook, Handbell Choir Director
 Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations
 Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
 Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
 Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord.