Worshipping Together

The Fifth

Sunday of Easter

Welcome to worship with the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs!

Like our siblings throughout the world, currently our congregation is gathering virtually with the assistance of electronic technology.

Click here to join us live on Facebook at 9:30 a.m. to engage with others through real-time chat.

Instructions for viewing the service live or the recording can be found at www.presbyws.org.

Gathering Together in God’s Name – Wherever We May Be

Prelude

Turkish March

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Stephanie Coates, organ

Gathering & Greeting

The Rev. Erik P. Khoobyarian

Liz Slezak

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

This is the day that the Lord has made!
We will rejoice and be glad in it!

God invites us to worship the Risen Christ in this season of Easter.
And so, we join with the host of heavenly angels singing our praises to God.

Let us pray:
God of creation, make your presence known to us
in our time of worship and narrow the distance between us,
that through your Holy Spirit
we would be connected in our praise of you.

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We recognize that we live in a world that was created to be perfect but through sin has become imperfect. We see around us the ways that sin brings sorrow and sadness. In your grace, may our tears be replaced with joy and may we, individually, as a church, as a society, and as all of humankind, be changed by your forgiveness and may we show your love to a world that is so much in need of transformation. Amen.
Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father and to the Son;
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, it is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Proclaiming the Word of God

Scripture Lesson
Judges 13:3-14

And the angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, “Although you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a son. Now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, or to eat anything unclean, for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his head, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth. It is he who shall begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines.” Then the woman came and told her husband, “A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like that of an angel of God, most awe-inspiring; I did not ask him where he came from, and he did not tell me his name; but he said to me, ‘You shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth to the day of his death.’”

Then Manoah entreated the Lord, and said, “O Lord, I pray, let the man of God whom you sent come to us again and teach us what we are to do concerning the boy who will be born.” God listened to Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field; but her husband Manoah was not with her. So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, “The man who came to me the other day has appeared to me.” Manoah got up and followed his wife, and came to the man and said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to this woman?” And he said, “I am.” Then Manoah said, “Now when your words come true, what is to be the boy’s rule of life; what is he to do?” The angel of the Lord said to Manoah, “Let the woman give heed to all that I said to her. She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine. She is not to drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. She is to observe everything that I commanded her.”

Song of Preparation
For All the Faithful Women (verse 1)

For all the faithful women who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

Sermon
Women of the Old Testament:
Samson’s Mother / Manoah’s Wife

The Rev. Erik P. Khoobyarian
Responding to God’s Word

Hymn of Response #488

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry; I’ll be there when
2 “When you heard the won-der of the Word, I was there to
3 “In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no

you are old. I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to
cheer you on. You were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord to
lon-ger young. I’ll be there to guide you through the night, com-

see your life un-fold. I was there when you were but a
whom you now be-long. If you find some-one to share your
plete what I’ve be-gun. When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es

child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of
time and you join your hearts as one, I’ll be there to
in and you shut your wea-ry eyes, I’ll be there as

light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell.”
make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun.”
I have al-ways been with just one more sur-prise.”

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Please send prayer concerns by phone or email to Pastor Erik at erik@presbyws.org.
Click here to sign up to receive Thursday morning weekly emails from PCWS which include our current prayer list.
Sending Hymn #300

We Are One in the Spirit

They'll know we are Christians

1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
   We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
   We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
   All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son.

and we pray that all unity may one day be restored;
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land;
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride;
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our

love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Invitation for Financial Stewardship

Your ongoing financial giving is important as we seek to continue our ministry at PCWS. Please consider making your contribution online. You can make a one-time payment or set up automatic payments. https://presbyws.org/donate/

Reach out to Patrick Rivers (patrick@presbyws.org) with any questions or for help in setting up payments through your bank.

Go in God’s Name

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Stephanie Coates, piano

Thank you to Stephanie Coates, Liz Sleczak, Lesley Sharkey, and Kara Leslie for their leadership in worship today!