

GO WITH GOD'S BLESSING

* Hymn "Go, Silent Friend" John Bell, © WGRG

- 1) Go, silent friend, your life has found its ending;
To dust returns your weary mortal frame.
God, who before birth called you into being,
Now calls you hence, his accent still the same.
Go, silent friend, your life in Christ is buried;
For you he lived and died and rose again.
Close by his side your promised place is waiting
Where, fully known, you shall with God remain.

There will be a brief interlude between verses.

- 2) Go, silent friend, forgive us if we grieved you;
Safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.
Your life has touched us, that is why we mourn you;
Our lives without you cannot be the same.
Go, silent friend, we do not grudge your glory;
Sing, sing with joy deep praises to your Lord.
You, who believed that Christ would come back for you,
Now celebrate that Jesus keeps his word.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Sarabande with Variations" Handel

* All who are able shall stand.

PH Presbyterian Hymnal **Sing** Sing! A New Creation (green songbook)

The flowers this morning have been given to the glory of God in memory of Thomas Abraham by his daughters, Barbara Mellander and Carole Grodack.

Welcome to 10:55 ALIVE! Congregational Memorial Service

April 28, 2013



GATHERED FOR GOD

Gathering Songs and Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Come, O people, and sing to God!

For the Lord calls his people to remember, to hope, and to love.

* Hymn 256 (PH) "Let the Whole Creation Cry"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession *followed by silent confession*

***Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.***

***We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.***

***We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;***

***We ignore the cries of the needy, remain indifferent to your grace,
and abuse the earth you have made.***

Forgive us, God of mercy.

***Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of abundant life***

given in Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Easter Response

“Jubilate Deo”

Praetorious

Jubilate Deo, Jubilate Deo! Alleluia!

Reception of New Members

LISTENING FOR GOD

Prayer for Understanding

First Lesson: John 13:31-35 (NT, p. 108)

A Time with Children

Musical Moment

“Abide With Me”

Monk, arr. Williams

Dr. Susan Kelly, soprano

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6 (NT, p. 259)

Sermon: “Thirsty for Consolation”

Rev. Bill Carter

Sermon Series: Easter Imagination

RESPONDING TO GOD

* Hymn 195 (Sing)

“For All the Saints Who Showed Your Love”

Affirmation of Faith: ***Journey After Easter***

We gather this day to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ
not only as an event of long ago
but as a promise that lies ahead of all God’s people.

***We hear the announcement of life everlasting,
yet we are still acquainted with death, how it takes our loved ones,
how it creates empty spots that need to be filled.***

Jesus declares, “I am going away from you,
but I will return in ways that the world cannot see.”

***We pray for him to come, to fill us with peace that passes understanding,
even though we wait for what we do not yet possess.***

We wonder. We cry. We are angry. We try to forget. We isolate ourselves.
And we wonder some more. How can this be?

Even as we seek answers, we learn to live with questions in new ways.

We feel some guilt,
thinking that words we said or things we did could have been different
or things we didn’t do, we could have done,
or words that were not spoken could now be said. But they can’t.

***In the midst of all our grief comes the celebration of Christ’s rising,
even though we cannot yet see all that God has promised.***

But we can remember what God has given us:

people to cherish, promises to sustain us ...
until Easter comes and wipes away the tears and creates
hope from memories, and light from darkness, and life from death.

***For us, Easter this year is about the promise Christ gives:
that those we love, though they died, now live.***

We gather together to share our loss,
to care for each other, and to claim the promises of faith.

***Because God’s love is stronger than death
we can entrust our loved ones to God’s care,
knowing God will also comfort us
and give us strength to keep living and loving.***

All: ***Christ lives in us, loves us, and loves those we love forever.***

Offering Ourselves

Special Music

“Sarabande”

Zipoli

Remembering Those We Have Loved and Lost

All are invited to light a memorial candle on the communion table.

You are invited to speak their name(s) as you light the candle.

After the service, please take the candle home as our gift to you.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. Bill Carter |
| Director of Educational Ministries | Tina Ide |
| Director of Music | Susan Kelly |
| Organist | Kay Ten Eyck |
| Liturgist | Tina Ide |
| Ushers | Sara Ann Hosier |



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

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John 13:31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.