



**Reaching Up, Reaching Out
Welcoming Everyone,
Serving in God's Love**

May 2, 2021
9:30 AM

Order of Worship

May 2nd, 2021

Newness is springing to life all around us!

Thank you, God, that your divine resurrection is revealed here on earth.

Boldface type: The congregation speaks in unison

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace
Richard Warne, Organist

(Shearing)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, children of God, to sing a new song, clap your hands and shout for joy.

Jesus is our good news, our joy, and our salvation.

In steadfast love and faithfulness God has done marvelous things.

God has raised Jesus from the dead; Christ is alive and at work among us.

The ends of the earth turn to God; all families of nations worship our Creator.

Christ is the vine; we are the branches. Apart from Christ we can do nothing.

HYMN

Gather Us In

#2236 vs. 1-3

1. Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away See in
this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken. Gather
us in, the blind and the lame. Call to us
now and we shall awaken. We shall arise
at the sound of our name.

3. Here we will take the wine and the
Water. Here we will take the bread of new
birth. Here you shall call your sons and
your daughters. Call us anew to be salt for
the earth. Give us to drink the wine of
compassion. Give us to eat the bread that
is you. Nourish us well and teach us to
fashion. Lives that are holy and hearts that
are true.

2. We are the young, our lives are a
Mystery. We are the old who yearn for
your face. We have been sung through-
out all of history. Called to be light to the
whole human race. Gather us in, the rich
and the haughty. Gather us in, the proud
and the strong. Give us a heart so meek
and so lowly. Give us the courage to enter
the song



We come to you, Loving God, needing the love you alone can give. Your love comes to us in Jesus, bringing abundant life for all who will receive it. Empower us by your love to love one another; abide in us to perfect your gift within and among us. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

Don Forden

Jesus the True Vine

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ring Jubilee

(Goetch)

Glory Bells, Laura Daillak, Liz Heacock, Kathy Ritsema,
Bev Miller, Sherry and David Atkins and Richard Warne

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26-40

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet, Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep, he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation?



For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SERMON

Rev. Doug Williams

PRAYER RESPONSE

Come And Find The Quiet Center

#2128 vs.1

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE

Come And Find The Quiet Center

#2128 vs.2&3

2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!



PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, accept our offerings as a sign of our connection with you and with the work of your kingdom, near at hand and around the world. May your love abide with us. Amen.

COMMUNION

#2257 b, c, d

LORDS PRAYER

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

Loving Spirit

#2123 vs.1-4

1. 1 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit, you have chosen me to be you have drawn me to your wonder, you have set your sign on me.

2 Like a mother you enfold me, hold my life within your own, feed me with your very body, form me of your flesh and bone.

3 Like a father you protect me, teach me the discerning eye, hoist me up upon your shoulder, let me see the world from high.

4 Friend and lover, in your closeness I am known and held and blessed: In your promise is my comfort, in your presence I may rest.

BLESSING

PEOPLES RESPONSE

Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place

HYMN #328

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace, I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune
Richard Warne, Organ

(Stanley)



Prayer Request

... for Donna Kish's brother who had a stroke on his right side.

... For Donna Kish's sister who is recovering from breast cancer but still going through chemo.



Worship Leaders for Today

Worship Leader/Liturgist-
Piano & Organist-
Cantor-
A/V Tech-

Don Forden
Richard Warne
Scott Bonhard
Scott Andrews

Laguna Country Staff



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