

# ORMOND UNITING CHURCH



MAY 1

EASTER 3



Icon of the Diocese of Cyprus, Maronite

*Congregational responses are printed in bold type*

## **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Opening our hearts and minds  
**let us focus on what is of God**

Opening our arms wide  
**let us embrace what is of Christ**

Opening our lives to love and be loved  
**let us prepare to be transformed by the Spirit**

### **HYMN: Church Hymnary (Church of Scotland) 172, TIS tune 111**

Sing for God's glory that colours  
the dawn of creation,  
racing across the sky, trailing  
bright clouds of elation;  
sun of delight succeeds the velvet of night,  
warming the earth's exultation.

Sing for God's power that shatters  
the chains that would bind us,  
searing the darkness of fear and despair  
that could blind us,  
touching our shame with love that will not lay blame,  
reaching out gently to find us.

Sing for God's justice disturbing  
each easy illusion,  
tearing down tyrants and putting  
our pride to confusion;  
lifeblood of right, resisting evil and slight,  
offering freedom's transfusion.

Sing for God's saints who have travelled  
faith's journey before us,  
who in our weariness give us their hope  
to restore us;  
in them we see the new creation to be,  
spirit of love made flesh for us.

## **PRAYERS OF GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**KYRIE** – sung TIS 756 – *Kyrie Eleison*

**Lord, have mercy,  
Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet;  
**A light to our path**

Psalm: Psalm 30 Iona Worship book

**Sing praise to God, all you faithful people!  
Give thanks to the Holy Name of God!**

A: I cried to you for help, o God  
and you, my God, have healed me

B: I was on my way to the depths below,  
but you have restored my life.

A: The moment of anger  
becomes a lifetime of goodness.

B: The tears of night  
turn to joy with the dawn.

A: You have changed my sadness  
to a joyful dance  
B: You have taken away my sorrow  
and surrounded me with joy.

**My soul will sing your praise  
and never be silent.  
O God, my God,  
I will give you thanks for ever.**

Epistles: Acts 9: 1-6 (NRSV)

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"  
<sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.  
"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

Gospel: John 21: 1-19 (NRSV)

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: <sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup> "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

<sup>6</sup> He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

<sup>7</sup> Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. <sup>8</sup> The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. <sup>9</sup> When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

<sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

<sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but

when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.”<sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**HYMN: TIS 676 A spend-thrift lover is the Lord**

A spendthrift lover is the Lord  
who never counts the cost  
or asks if heaven can afford  
to woo a world that's lost.  
Our lover tosses coins of gold  
across the midnight skies,  
and stokes the sun against the cold  
to warm us when we rise.

Still more is spent in blood and tears  
to win the human heart,  
to overcome the violent fears  
that drive the world apart.  
Behold the bruised and thorn-crowned face  
of one who bears our scars,  
and empties out the wealth of grace  
that's hinted by the stars.

How shall we love this heart-strong God  
who gives us everything,  
whose ways to us are strange and odd:  
what can we give or bring?  
Acceptance of the matchless gift  
is gift enough to give;  
the very act will shake and shift  
the way we love and live.

Thomas Henry Troeger  
1945-

## **SERMON 'On the beach'**

### **HYMN: TIS 653 This is a day of new beginnings**

This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember, and move on,  
time to believe what love is bringing,  
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,  
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,  
can make for us a world of difference  
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past, and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.

*(Alternate verse for Holy Communion)*  
In faith we'll gather round the table  
to taste and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.

Brian Arthur Wren  
1936-

*The offering is received during this hymn. Please remain seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **HYMN: TIS 393 Christ is alive with joy we sing, vs 1-5**

Christ is alive, with joy we sing;  
we celebrate our risen Lord,  
praising the glory of his name.  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

He is the grain of wheat that died,  
sown in distress and reaped in joy,  
yielding a harvest of new life.  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

He is the sun which brings the dawn:  
he is the light of all the world,  
setting us free from death and sin.  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

He is the vine set in the earth,  
sharing our life, from birth to death,  
that we might share in God's own life.  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

He is the bread that comes from God,  
broken to feed us in our need,  
given to bring eternal life.  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Pamela Stotter  
1944-

## THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*the prayer of thanksgiving continues:*

... with all you have gathered to yourself  
and raised to the company of heaven,  
we join in the eternal hymn of praise:

**TIS 756**

**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.**

*the prayer continues:*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

... as our Lord taught us we are confident to say:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen**

### **AGNUS DEI**

... The gifts of God for the people of God.

**TIS 756**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

### **SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE**

#### **PRAYER**

**HYMN: We sing a love that sets all people free, Tune TIS 411  
Church Hymnal 622**

1 We sing a love that sets all people free,  
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,  
enfolds the earth, springs up like water clear:  
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

2 We sing a love that seeks another's good,  
that longs to serve and not to count the cost,  
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new:  
come, caring love, live in our hearts today.

3 We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid  
to be itself, despite another's wrath,  
a love that stands alone and undismayed:  
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

4 We sing a love that, wandering, will not rest  
until it finds its way, its home, its source,  
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:  
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

5 We sing the Holy Spirit, full of love,  
who seeks out scars of ancient bitterness,  
brings to our wounds the healing grace of Christ:  
come, radiant love, live in our hearts today.

## **BLESSING AND SENDING OUT**

## **WORD OF MISSION**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

## **POSTLUDE**

*You can find a copy of today's sermon along with other congregational  
information on the church website.*

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