



April 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday After Easter

Brief Announcements	
Prelude	Lisa Cripe
Opening Prayer	Sally Smith
*Opening Hymn	<i>Lift High the Cross</i> CH 108
Children's Moment	Robin Woodrome
Scripture Reading	1 John 4:7-21
Table Talk	"Too Scared to Love?" Jeff Moore
Invitation to Discipleship	Jeff Moore
*Hymn of Invitation	<i>Fill the World with Love</i> CH 467
Invitation to the Lord's Table/Healing Service	Jeff Moore
Communion/Healing Hymn	<i>No, Not One!</i> CH 544

Healing Service/The Lord's Supper/Elder's Prayer
(see attached litany) Jeff Moore
Breona Hawkins

Communion Meditation *Healer of Our Every Ill*
Prayer of Thanksgiving Devoree Crist
CH 506

Offering Our Gifts & Commitments Jeff Moore
Prayer over the Offering
*Doxology

Prayers of the Community Jeff Moore
This morning, we are praying with and for the people and churches of Korea, and those countries under the siege of war and natural disasters

The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* CH 589

*Benediction Jeff Moore

Postlude *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

* = **Please stand if you are comfortably able.**
CH—Chalice Hymnal CP=Chalice Praise Hymnal AAH=African-Amer. Hymnal

Greeter(s): John Christensen
Musicians: Lisa Cripe, Wind of the Spirit, WGCC Choir (Robin Woodrome, director)
Prayer Composer: Devoree Crist
Media/Streaming: John Pahl, Andrew Damsgaard-Rodriguez

Opening Prayer April 28, 2024 Sunday Worship

1 John 4:7-21

You who are Love, bless us as we worship. Our text today is straight forward. If we do not love each other, we don't know you. We can claim we love you all we want but if we are not showing that love to all our brothers and sisters, we are not being honest. How can we mistreat, exclude, or dismiss someone and claim to love you? Perhaps we avoid people in need or prejudge them. Maybe in our desire to get ahead in the world we never even consider how our actions affect others or worse, ignore the effects. Give us the grace to understand that it is fear that underlies this. Let your Holy Spirit enter into our deepest being so that our love for you and your love for us dictates our love for others. A love made perfect by Jesus, who lives in us, drives out fear. Let us abide in you. We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

1 John 4:7-21

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11** Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us. **13** By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. **15** God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. **16** So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in

love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. **21** The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

HEALING SERVICE/Communion April 28, 2024

Jeff: Bountiful God, we open our hearts to you in gratitude for the longevity of this Congregation, and for 70 years in this very building. As we look to the future we give thanks for our past and all the special and beautiful events that have taken place. We ask your blessing upon us as we prepare ourselves for the changes ahead.

ALL: Thank you for all you have accomplished through us.

Breona: Christ gave his life that we might have eternal life in you. We seek to follow him. Forgive us for the things we have done or that we failed to do that move us in the wrong direction.

ALL: Thank you for gift of the Son.

Devoree: Jesus appeared to His disciples after the resurrection. We know he is here with us today. Help us be aware of his presence in those around us and to acknowledge the humanity and sacredness of each person. Heal our broken relationships, and help us build new ones.

ALL: Thank you for revealing yourself in our relationships

Jeff: There is so much pain and suffering in the world today. We ask your healing grace on the people in the midst of war, for those being persecuted, for those who are being driven from their homes, for those who don't have enough to eat, for those who feel unsafe.

We also ask your healing for those who have been given much but choose not to share, who turn away from the poor and needy, who are complicit in the pain and suffering in the world, who don't want to know the pain and suffering that they inflict by action or by inaction.

ALL: Thank you for your endless love given to all people so we may in turn love one another.

Breona: You are invited to offer your own prayer for healing. For yourself or for others. If you are able feel free to come forward and light a candle on the Communion Table. (If you would like to light a candle but are unable to come forward please let us know and we will light one for you.)

TIME FOR CANDLE LIGHTING – play a slow meditative version of No, Not One CH 544

Breona: Healing God, we humbly lift these prayers to you

ALL: Hear our prayers. Heal us.

Devoree: Meal sharing was important to Jesus. Just as Jesus shared food with those around him during his ministry, he also shared a special meal with his disciples before his death. After the resurrection he again came to the disciples and shared food with them, in Emmaus, and on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Here at this table we remember this powerful table ministry and celebrate his love for us all in radical welcome. All are invited to come to the table and experience the healing grace of God. Come as you are. Jesus calls you to his table of love.

You are invited to turn to one another and offer a sign of his healing Peace

Communion Hymn – CH 506 Healer of Our Every Ill Martyr Haugen 1987

Elder's Prayer **Devoree**

Words of institution: **Jeff**
(Both bread and Cup)

Prayer of Thanksgiving: **Devoree**

We thank you Father/Mother God for this life-giving meal, for your healing grace. You sent the disciples out into the world to serve. We, too, desire to be your disciples. Be with us as we leave here, nourished and prepared to go out into our various places in the world. Help us to love and serve so that we may be your instruments of healing for those in need, hurting or wounded at home or wherever we might be. In Jesus holy name we pray, Amen.