



**April 7, 2024**  
**First Sunday After Easter**

Brief Announcements

Prelude *O Sons and Daughters, Sing Your Praise*  
 15 century French carol

Opening Prayer Laura Stuetzer

\*Opening Hymn *Thise Is the Glory* CH 218

Children's Moment Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

Anthem *You Are Mine* WGCC Choir

Scripture Reading Acts 2:32-35 Laura Stuetzer

Table Talk **"One Heart, One Mind"** Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

\*Hymn of Invitation *We're United in Jesus* CH 493

Invitation to the Lord's Table Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

Communion Hymn *In the Garden* CH 227

The Lord's Supper/Elder's Prayer John Burney

Communion Meditation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering Our Gifts & Commitments Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

Prayer over the Offering

\*Doxology

Prayers of the Community Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter  
*This morning, we are praying with and for the people and churches of Lesotho, 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 *The Strife Is O'er* CH 221

\*Benediction Rev. Dr. Terrell Carter

Postlude *The Strife Is O'er* Lisa Cripe

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

Greeter(s): Gary Gwinn  
 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 7, 2024 Sunday Worship

### **Based on Acts 4:32-35**

Great Provider, we know that you have made available all that is needed for your people and all your creation to survive and thrive. There are enough resources to feed, heal, and house everyone on the earth. Through greed and a self-serving hierarchy, humankind has often failed to be the good stewards you want us to be. Racism, misogyny, sexism, ageism, ableism, the refusal to recognize one's gender, and economic classism have caused us to be more like Empire than your people. Jesus resisted a system like this. He taught his disciples to love one another. The early believers were of one heart and mind, sharing everything. O, God, as we worship today, touch us all with your Holy Spirit and enlighten us to the truth. Let us behave like those disciples who had "not one needy person among them." It is possible to change things. There is enough for all. Let us begin with generosity and compassion towards others. Help us to see all people as "US" and share what we receive for we are one in you through Jesus Christ in whose holy name we now pray, Amen.

## Acts 4:32-35

### New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

#### **The Believers Share Their Possessions**

**32** Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. **33** With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. **34** There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. **35** They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.