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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | May 17th, 2019 – 10:30am Springfield Presbyterian Church Order of Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter       Announcements   Lighting the Christ Candle Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim: **People: Christ is the Light of the world and center of our lives.**   Gathering of the People Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!** [Greetings and Announcements]   Call to Worship  (based on Psalm 66, by Joan Stott) Leader: Transforming God, you have taken the world’s darkness and re-created a world filled with the joy of light and hope. **People: Come and hear the good news of God’s love for all creation.** Leader: Restoring God, you have turned defeat into sudden victory, and re-created a world filled with the joy of peace and shalom. **People: Come and hear the good news of God’s awesome powers.** Leader: Renewing God, we respond to your mighty deeds with songs of praise, worship and thankful prayers. You alone are God! **People: Come and hear the good news of God’s blessings on us all. Glory and honor, power and dominion belong to God alone.** **Amen.**   \* Hymn Morning Has Broken - #664   Prayer of Confession (Unison)  **Generous God,**   **There are days where we can only see the lament, the struggle, and the heartache, and we doubt that you exist. We lose a sense of hope, a sense of who we are, and a sense of whose we are. We ask for your loving forgiveness for when we lose sight of hope and we ask that in your gentle mercy, that you point us again and again towards the faithful words of your psalmists and prophets. Remind us of the Good News and create in us a heart that can hold lament and hope with you. Renew us, restore us, and rekindle our faith through your forgiving power. Amen.**   Silent Prayers of Confession   Words of Assurance (responsive) Leader: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. And Christ died and rose for us, taking away the power of sin and death and granting us new life and forgiveness. **People: Thanks be to God who restores us daily and forgives us so we may begin again. Amen!**     The Peace Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)     The Proclamation of the Word   Prayer of Illumination  God of power, open our hearts and minds to the ways in which your words speak truth in our lives. Help us to center ourselves, to focus our spirits, on the ways in which your Word give us new life and light. Amen.   Scripture Lesson Psalm 66:8-20   Bless our God, O peoples,     let the sound of his praise be heard, **9**who has kept us among the living,     and has not let our feet slip. **10**For you, O God, have tested us;     you have tried us as silver is tried. **11**You brought us into the net;     you laid burdens on our backs; **12**you let people ride over our heads;     we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.[[a](https://gmail.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f1606ba25f61bd2fff7873030&id=be4bf57d60&e=ea8fc2a60a)] **13**I will come into your house with burnt offerings;     I will pay you my vows, **14**those that my lips uttered     and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. **15**I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,     with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. **16**Come and hear, all you who fear God,     and I will tell what he has done for me. **17**I cried aloud to him,     and he was extolled with my tongue. **18**If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,     the Lord would not have listened. **19**But truly God has listened;     he has given heed to the words of my prayer. **20**Blessed be God,     because he has not rejected my prayer     or removed his steadfast love from me.     Time with Young People    Sermon **The Only Way is Through**     The Response to the Word     \* Hymn I Love to Tell the Story –GtG#462   Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**   Generous God,   We are a people of hope, because we are a people who have found our greatest hope in you. We are joyful that you journey with us, that you guide us through the waters of hardship, and you nurture us in your love. We are grateful for the blessings that continue to sustain us and for the ways in which you encourage us through your Spirit. May we embody a spirit of love, grace, hope, and justice, renewing the vows of our baptism, breathing in the new breath of life each day.   We are also a people who not only hold hope, but we hold lament as well. We lament at the state of our world, the state of unemployment, and the state of injustice and racial inequality that is so pervasive. We ask that you intercede in those spaces where grief is deeply felt, where love is absent, and where pain is very real.   And now we, trusting in your grace and mercy, lift our joys and concerns up before You and this congregation.   And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray... ...   **Our Father,** **Who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name** **Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.** **On Earth as it is in Heaven** **And give us this day our daily bread** **And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,** **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.** **For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**   Offertory Prayer   Hymn Hope of the World – GtG#734   Charge and Benediction Leader: We know the pangs of lament, **People: The darkness of that road.** Leader: We also know the brilliance of hope, **People: That transforms our hearts.** Leader: And so we shall share both lament and hope, **People: Giving you glory as you bring us through.** | | |