

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *One Lord, One Body, One Feast* – Lee Dengler

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Prayer* – Brian Gibson

Introit #201: *A Prophet Woman Broke a Jar* Chancel Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 126)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, it was like a dream.

Then our mouths were filled with laughter and shouts of joy.

Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joy.

Let those who go out weeping come home with shouts of joy. Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, as we near the end of our Lenten journey, we give thanks for the new thing that you are doing and for your provision in our wilderness. As we have wandered, you have steadied us; you have provided manna, that we might not hunger, and you have provided water, that we might not thirst. We have gained new awareness as you have revealed your love. Open our lips, that we might join with all creation in singing your praise, O God. Amen.

Opening Hymn 463: *How Firm a Foundation* (stand)

Call to Confession

Though we find much to boast about, we return again to God, who sees through our efforts to handle our life on our own. Hear again the tender invitation to speak plainly before God and one another.

Let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Why are you so extravagant, O God? We work hard, use our intelligence, keep our ledgers balanced, accomplish feats daily, care for our families, and honor our inherited legacies. Is this not enough to earn our place among the favored? Yet you throw open windows and doors, revealing a vision we do not possess, where accomplishments don't count, where tears reap joy, where peace is found in suffering, where confidence is gained by giving away what is ours to treasure. Show us again what matters. Forgive our misplaced values, and draw us into your extravagance, that we, too, might be generous with our love.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Our claim to forgiveness rests entirely in God's claim on us. Jesus Christ restores us to life. Say it with joy! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored.
Thanks be to our God now and forever.**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Lord Have Mercy Upon Us #575:

Anthem: *God Has Called Us* arr. Robert Hobby

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all of those in need.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination. Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises.

God in your mercy. **Receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings (please stand)

Doxology #606: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Prayer of Dedication:

Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Hymn #821: *How Can I Keep from Singing* vs. 1, 2
(seated)

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone. Let the heavenly food of the scripture we are about to hear nourish us today in the ways of eternal life, through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:16 – 21

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 3:4b - 14

Gospel Lesson: John 12:1 - 8

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Extravagant Gratitude* Jonathan Kimball

Communion Anthem: *In Remembrance of Me* Buryl Red

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and our great delight to praise you, O God.

We thank you for your steadfast love in spite of our human sin.

We join with the heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place to sing to the glory of your name:

**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!

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us 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. 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. *(take the communion)*

Prayer After Communion

**Gracious Lord, by whose mercy we have proclaimed
in word and sacrament the mystery of thy love: help
us so to live our lives that we may show forth thy
wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our
Savior. Amen.**

Sending Hymn #733: *We All are One in Mission*

Benediction John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

May God the Father prepare your journey,
Jesus the Son guide your footsteps,
The Spirit of Life strengthen your body,
The Three in One watch over you,
on every road that you may follow..

Go in Peace, Live in Love, **Serve the Lord.**

Postlude: *Fanfare on “Rise Up, O Church of God”*

Tracey Craig McKibben

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