

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 24, 2016

10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

* Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1–7

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

* Hymn: PH 95 “Now with Joyful Exultation” BEECHER

* God's Greeting:

Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

Blessed be God,

And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

* Prayer of the Day:

We praise you, God almighty, for the power you have shown in creating the world. We thank you for your love in redeeming us from sin and in creating us anew in Christ. Grant us strength in this life to honor you, Lord God, both in worship and in witness, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

* Response: PH 420 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” TRENTHAM

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

James 4:8b–10

Prayer of Confession:

O God, our great shepherd, you tenderly gather us as lambs, carrying us with your all-embracing love. Yet, like sheep, we wander from you: following our own ways, ignoring your voice, distrusting your provisions. Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust. Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy and restore our souls by your redeeming love. Guide our paths, that we might follow you more closely.

Silent Prayer and Confession

Minister: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Psalms 130

God's Will for Our Lives:

Matthew 22:34–40

Choir Anthem: "The Mind of Christ"

Hayes

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Hymn: PH 550

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

RESIGNATION

[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave after the hymn.]

Scripture Reading:

Luke 15:1–7

Sermon: *Joy in Heaven*

Prayer

* Hymn: PH 477

"You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

HANOVER

THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

Numbers 6:24–26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.
Amen.

God, the Father of your people, you have called us to be one;
grant us grace to walk together in the joy of Christ, your Son.
Challenged by your Word and Spirit, blest with gifts from heaven above,
as one body we will serve you and bear witness to your love.

May the grace of Christ, our Savior; and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor, rest upon us from above.

May we now remain in union with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion, joys that earth cannot afford.