

THE NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 9th, 2021 6th Sunday of Easter - 10:00am

Rev. Duane Ullrich, Pastor

Mr. Dylan Sauerwald, Music Director

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here to join with us in this Season of Easter, for Easter Sunday is just the beginning of our encounters with Christ, our risen Lord.. If there is anything we can do to help make your experience with us a worshipful one for you today, please ask an usher.

Please note that we are Live-Streaming this service. To be considerate to those who will be joining us online, we will be starting our services as close to 10am as possible.

Thank you for silencing your cell phone.

GREETINGS AND WELCOME

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Jesus says, “Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” Amen.
John 15:4

PRAYER FOR THE DAY:

“Everlasting God, grant us mercy, grant us refuge, now and forever, for our generation and for our children. Amen.”

PRELUDE

*A CALL TO WORSHIP

This is a place of gathering.

We gather to celebrate the glory of God.

The chorus of the morning birdsong proclaims it;
The grandeur of the mountains displays it.

All of creation proclaims the glory of God!

The relief of a refugee finding sanctuary sighs it; the joy of the unemployed person finding work, shouts it aloud.

In the process of finding wholeness and healing, we sense and feel the glory of God!

The laughter of playing children affirms it;
The warmth of a mother with her child reflects it.

**In the relationship between parent and child
we can see the glory of God!**

Creator God, we thank You for the wonderful gift of family, an institution that provides us with support, nurture and love.

We know a loving family is truly a gift. It is not a gift to be accepted and then put aside. Rather it is a gift to be cherished, and appreciated and developed over the years.

We thank You, God, for our mothers, who did much to bring us up with attention and care.

Our mothers sought to teach us right from wrong, comforted us when we were afraid, encouraged us to try new things, and supported us, even when we left home to start our own lives.

Jesus, we acknowledge that You made us part of Your family.

And this, too, is not a gift to be set aside but a gift that needs be worked on and developed by getting to know one another as sisters and brothers.

Today we celebrate Mother's Day, and give thanks to and for our mothers. May we also affirm mothers who have careers outside the home, women who have not been able to bear children, women who have adopted, and women who have chosen not to have children of their own, and yet care for and nurture others in their own ways. They all have ministries in Your Name.

Dear God, may we grow in love and understanding as we learn more about our Christian family of sisters and brothers.

Although we sometimes seem to be so very different, help us always to feel the bond that unites and supports us in this community of faith that bears Your Name.

HYMN

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

MBW #523

**1 In Christ there is no east or west,
 in him no south or north,
 but one great fellowship of love
 throughout the whole wide earth.**

**2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
 their high communion find.**

when high communion and.
**His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**

**3 Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**

LITURGY:
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Christian Homes

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Eternal God, Creator of our first home, and our only true Rest, we gather as your family to celebrate our diverse homes, and to seek your blessings on them. God of relationships, you have put within our hearts a longing that only you can satisfy. Yet we need each other to learn of your steadfast love throughout all generations.

**Open our hearts, that we may learn from our biblical heritage
how to manifest your love.**

(Sitting)

God our Creator, in the garden you formed our first parents, and found them good. At first in their innocence, they trusted you and helped each other, but they sinned and fell short of your purposes for them.

**Forgive us our sins and give us grace to trust you in the goodness
of your creation and your design.**

You called Sarah and Abraham to go out from their homeland and begin a new nation in covenant with you. In their old age, you gave them a child whose name meant laughter. In our homes, may we live with their trust and courage, their humor, their sense of mission.

Increase our faith and give us grace to answer your call.

You strengthened Ruth and Naomi, in the face of grief and bitterness, to remain loyal to each other and to journey to new life.

Encourage us and give us grace to support each other.

When you came to earth, Incarnate God, you had no place to lay your head. God of the stable, bless the homeless, and bring them to a place of shelter.

Keep us aware and give us grace to be family to others.

Rejoicing Savior, you sanctified marriage by your presence at Cana in Galilee. You restored life and health and balance in the home of

in Gaiance. You restored me and health and balance in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Be a holy guest within our homes, filling our ordinary days with newness of life and mutual joy.

Grant us the grace to recognize you as the Christ among us, and to be open to your miracles of change.

Suffering God, from the cross you cared for your loved ones, saying to Mary: Woman, behold your son! and to the disciple: Behold your mother! And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. Bless all families and enable them to form new bonds of love.

Comfort us in our brokenness and give us grace to claim our relationship as your children.

Life-giving Spirit, you came in power to form and guide the church, a family with varied gifts and graces. Grant that church and home may model for each other the nurturing of individuals and the growth of community. We recognize the difficulty of forming family with those who are different from ourselves, and with those who are like ourselves. We confess our failure to love and grow, our impatience for others to change, our blindness to one another's needs. Yet we rejoice that you have given us each other, and we dedicate ourselves to mutual support and love, trusting not in our own strength, but in your strong compassion.

Bless and guide us, triune God, and enable us to support and love each other.

TUNE: BISHOPGARTH MBW

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1. **Who trusts in God, a strong abode
In heaven and earth possesses;
Who looks in love to Christ above,
No fear the heart oppresses.
In you alone, dear God, we own
Sweet hope and consolation,
Our shield from foes, our balm for woes,
Our great and sure salvation.**

2. **We covenant in church and home
This peace to show each other,
To represent your steadfast love
As sister and as brother.
Oh, may we through each other know
Your grace which fails us never,
And find at last our true abode**

Within your house forever. Amen.

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURE

New Testament: **Acts 10:44-48**
New Testament: **1 John 5:1-6**
Gospel: **John 15:9-17**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON “To Grow or Not To Grow”

HYMN: “O Happy Home” Tune: O Perfect Love MBW #429

1. **O happy home, where thou art loved the dearest,
 thou loving Friend and Savior of our race,
 and where among the guests there never cometh
 one who can hold such high and honored place!**

2. **O happy home, whose little ones are given
 early to thee in humble faith and prayer,
 to thee, their Friend, who from the heights of heaven
 guides them, and guards with more than mother's care!**

3. **O happy home, where each one serves thee, lowly,
 whatever his appointed work may be,
 till ev'ry common task seems great and holy,
 when it is done, O Lord, as unto thee!**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Response: P&W #221

**I cast all my cares upon You,
I lay all of my burdens, down at Your feet.
And anytime, I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon You.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

INVITATION

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Praise God....”

MBW #817

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above you heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***HYMN “Brothers and Sisters in Christ”**

1. Sing Allelulia! Amen!

**Let your prayers and your praises ascend.
Lift up your voices and sing
to our Lord God, our Savior, our King!
Here brought together by grace,
we are gathered as friends in this place.**

Chorus:

**And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,
lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,
and proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.
We are brothers and sisters in Christ.**

- 2. Man walked alone and in need,
without faith, hope or promise or creed;
wandering aimlessly lost
unaware of the staggering cost;
that God in his mercy would save
all his people from death and the grave.**

Chorus:

**And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,
lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,
and proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.
We are brothers and sisters in Christ.**

- 3. Lord, teach us how to proclaim
all your goodness, your love and your name!
Lord, teach us how to forgive,
and in love, teach us Lord, how to live.
Raising our voices in song,
help us tell all the world we belong.**

Chorus:

**And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,
lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,
and proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.
We are brothers and sisters in Christ.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The song/hymn notations indicate where songs are located:

P&W - Songs for Praise and Worship Word Publishing, 1992

MBW – the Moravian Book of Worship

(These songs will also be projected on the screen.)

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Liturgy for Christian Homes

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“Brothers and Sisters in Christ” Words and music by Terry Dittmer
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