

Restoration

7:00 p.m.

March 22, 2023

Prelude

August McFeaters, Piano

Welcome and Prayer

**Call to Worship*

We gather to share in our love of God.

All: Lord, open our hearts and let us share your Good News.

We gather to share our witness to God's goodness.

All: Lord, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.

We gather to be restored by God's grace.

All: Lord, restore to us the joy of your salvation.

**Hymn 370*

This is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

August McFeaters, Flute

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Let us offer our Confession taken from a prayer written by The Reverend Tom Miles. Let us pray:

Lord and Restorer of my soul, once again I come to you because my soul aches for restoration. Lord and Restorer of my soul, once again I come to you because I have scarred my soul and need restoration. Powers beyond my control took charge of me against my better judgment—when judgment gave way to impulse and craving that demanded satisfaction and temptations too strong for me to resist. Excuses are not on my lips. Pride no longer offers soul sustenance. Like the tax collector, I smite my breast and acknowledge my failure. You alone can send me back to my rightful place free of my failures that plague me and rob me of peace. You alone can give me back the life I squandered in selfish pursuit of my personal gain—sometimes at the expense of others, including those who trust and love me. Upon your restoring mercy I cast myself. I relinquish all claims to wisdom and self-assurance. I beseech you, claim me, cleanse me, restore me.

Declaration of Forgiveness

The LORD restores to us the joy of our salvation and puts a new and right spirit within us.

Leader: Hear and believe the good news that comes from God.

ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Hymn 625*

O Lord My God

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Psalm 23:1-3

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Mark 4:14-20

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Restoration”

Mary Margaret Smith

**Hymn*

In the Garden

**Affirmation of Faith*

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 625

O Lord My God

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer is offered....

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

**Hymn 531*

Seed, Scattered and Sown

SEEDS SCATTERED

Benediction

Postlude

August McFeaters, Piano