

MAY 3, 2020  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

---

**PRELUDE — *Jesus Shall Reign* - Hatton/Berry**

**CALL to WORSHIP**

One: Beloved of God, if you lift your net and it is empty, come and worship!

**All: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.**

One: If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One, come and worship!

**All: We'll find the Risen Christ here among us.**

One: If your life is filled with mourning, come and worship!

**All: Christ is leading a dance of joy.**

One: Children of God, come and worship!

**All: Let us give blessing and honor and glory to God! Let us worship God together!**

**PRAYER of CONFESSION**

*Merciful Lord, save us from ourselves.* We continue to do the same things over and over, expecting different results.

*Merciful Lord, save us from doing too much.* We go fishing every day, not noticing you waiting with a meal on the beach.

*Merciful Lord, save us from doing too little.* We say we love you, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.

*Merciful Lord, save us from ourselves.* Help us to open our hearts to your call. Help us to hear and respond when you say, "Follow Me."

*(Time for silent prayer and confession)*

**SCRIPTURE READING — John 21:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' <sup>6</sup>He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

## **AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from *A Brief Statement of Faith***

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

## **PAUSE for PRAYER**

*At this time, we invite you to take out a piece of paper and a pen, or talk with the people you are worshipping with today, and answer at least one of the following questions as we prepare to turn to God in prayer.*

- 1) Of these three resurrection accounts in John, which do you resonate with most and why?
  - *John 20:1-18* — Jesus appears to Mary
  - *John 20:19-23* — Jesus appears to the disciples in a locked room
  - *John 21:1-14* — Jesus appears to the disciples on the beach
- 2) Even though we're separated from one another, where are you feeling "sent" this week by God?
- 3) How can we be praying for you this week?

## **POSTLUDE — *The Risen Christ***

### **PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Rev. Rachel Rhodes – Senior Pastor  
Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla – Associate Pastor  
Tim Carpenter – Director of Music  
Elizabeth Dugan – Liturgist  
Nancy Powers – Prelude  
Sara & Tim Carpenter – Postlude  
Damon Miller – Communications Coordinator