

# MAY 24, 2020

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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### PRELUDE — *Sarabande* - G. F. Handel

### CALL to WORSHIP

One: They thought the story was finished, they thought the hope had ended.  
**All: But the story has just begun! The hope is newly born!**  
One: They thought the tomb was sealed, they brought items to anoint him.  
**All: But the tomb is empty and he is not there!**  
One: For Jesus is risen!  
**All: He is risen indeed!**  
One: This is the Gospel of the resurrected Christ.  
**All: Let us worship God together.**

### PRAYER of CONFESSON

Like the disciples who came to your tomb as the first day of the week was dawning and found the tomb empty, we have such good news to tell. For you, Lord, have cast off your grave clothes and shattered the powers of sin and death. But we have heard this news before. How often have we let your words fall silent? How often have we returned to daily routines as if Easter changes nothing? How often have our actions belied the power of the resurrection to transform our world? Risen Lord, forgive us for our half-hearted witness. Free us from the bindings of fear or indifference, disappointment or disenchantment. Fill us with the light of resurrection and send us into the world to proclaim in word and deed that we have seen the Lord!

### TIME for SILENT CONFESSION

### TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

In the coming week, we invite you to add your own prayers to our prayer garden at MPC! Please maintain appropriate social distance from one another and wait to add your prayers if another family is there at the time. While you're there, take a picture of you or your family at the garden and send it to [damonmiller@mpcusa.net](mailto:damonmiller@mpcusa.net) if you're comfortable with it being used in our worship or social media publications in the future. We would also love if you posted your photo on Facebook or Instagram and tagged the church!

### GOSPEL READING — Mark 16:1-8

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

One: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **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.

## **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) What has been your biggest struggle this week?
- 2) How have you seen the church be "open" these past few months?
- 3) How do you believe God is calling you to pick up the baton of discipleship in this next chapter?

## **POSTLUDE — *Con Spirito* - Thomas Arne**

### **PARTICIPATING IN TODAY's SERVICE**

Rev. Rachel Rhodes – Senior Pastor

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla – Associate Pastor

Tim Carpenter – Director of Music

Lisa Zazzu – Liturgist

Prelude – Sara Carpenter, piano

Young Disciples & Postlude – Mark Shockey

Damon Miller – Communications Coordinator

Photos provided by: Frances Akelewicz, Roger Anderson, Beth DiTulio,  
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