The Christian Year: the Third Sunday of Easter

# **10:30 AM Morning Service**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 5:3)

#### Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

#### The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

#### \*Call to Worship: Psalm 18:2-3, 30-31

Minister: The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

People: I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

Minister: This God - his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

#### People: For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?

Unison: Come, let us sing and praise our God!

# \*Hymn of Adoration: "How Firm a Foundation" (No. 94)

1 How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply; the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

5 "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love; and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6 "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

# \*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer

All knowing and ever-present God: In you the enslaved find redemption, the guilty pardon, the unholy renovation. In you is everlasting strength for the weak, unsearchable riches for the needy, treasures of wisdom and knowledge for the ignorant, fullness for the empty. At Your gracious call we hear, come, take, receive and apply mercy sufficient for all our need. All this we have in your dear Son, Jesus, whom we praise and adore, and in whose name we pray. Amen (Adapted from "The Name of Jesus" in The Valley of Vision)

#### \*Confession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism, No. 125

Minister: What is the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer?

- People: Give us today our daily bread. That is: Provide us with all our bodily needs so that we may acknowledge that you are the only fountain of all good, and that our care and labor, and also your gifts, cannot do us any good without your blessing. Grant, therefore, that we may withdraw our trust from all creatures and place it only in you.
- Unison: Thanks be to God!

\*Gloria (Tune: Lauda Anima) Glory to you, God the Father; glory to you, God the Son; Glory to you, Holy Spirit; ever three and ever one; One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.

#### **Psalter Reading: Psalm 62**

Minister: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.

People: He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Minister: How long will you assault a man?

People: Would all of you throw him down – this leaning wall, this tottering fence?

Minister: They fully intend to topple him from his lofty place; they take delight in lies.

People: With their mouths they bless, but in their hearts they curse.

Minister: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.

People: He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

Minister: My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge

People: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

- Minister: Lowborn men are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie;
- People: if weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath.

Minister: Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods;

People: though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

- Minister: One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard; that you, O God, are strong, and that you, O Lord, are loving.
- People: Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done.

# Hymn of Praise: "<u>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less</u>" (No. 521)

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain] 3 His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]

# The Prayers of the People

Our Father, we confess that in religious exercises the language of our lips and the feelings of our hearts have not always agreed, that we have frequently taken carelessly upon our tongues a name never pronounced above without reverence and humility, that we have often desired things which would have injured us, that we have depreciated some of our chief mercies. May we never think we prosper unless our souls prosper, or that we are rich unless rich toward you, or that we are wise unless wise unto salvation. May we seek first your kingdom and its righteousness. May we value things in relation to eternity. May we seek our happiness in your favor, your image, your presence, and your service. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Adapted from "Desires" in The Valley of Vision

#### **Silent Prayer**

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### Words of Encouragement

Minister: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. (II Corinthians 8:9)

# People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

#### \*Hymn of Thanksgiving: "<u>Be Thou My Vision</u>" (No. 642)

1 Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my dignity, thou my delight, thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r; raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

# Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

\*Doxology (Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen) Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

\*Reading of The Holy Scriptures: Revelation 3:14-22

\*Prayer for Illumination

# Sermon: "Spiritual Bankruptcy" (Rev. Seth Wallace)

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near. (Rev. 1:3)

4 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

# \*Hymn of Response: "<u>My Heart Is Filled</u>" (SH No. 17)

1 My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him who bore my pain; Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace And gave me life again; Who crushed my curse of sinfulness And clothed me in His light And wrote His law of righteousness With pow'r upon my heart.

2 My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him who walks beside; Who floods my weaknesses with strength And causes fears to fly; Whose ev'ry promise is enough For ev'ry step I take, Sustaining me with arms of love And crowning me with grace. 3 My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him who reigns above, Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, Whose ev'ry thought is love. For ev'ry day I have on earth Is given by the King; So I will give my life, my all, To love and follow Him.

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# \*Benediction

#### Postlude

\*Denotes congregational standing, if able.

If you would like someone to pray with you, an Elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# > Town Hall Meeting

Please plan to join us for a Town Hall Meeting on April 25 at 6 p.m.

# Nursery Workers Needed

As the rhythm of normalcy returns to the life of our church, we want to be sure we are prepared to care for our youngest people. If you are interested in volunteering to serve in the nursery during our Sunday service, please contact Susan Parsons at the church office. (772) 978-5848 or <u>susan@ctkvb.org</u>.

# > Women's Bible Study Continues

Each Thursday through May 20, we will study the Book of James. He tells us that steadfastness is faithfulness, regardless of circumstances. In a world where so much can undermine our faith as well as pull us offtrack, steadfastness is often a rare and elusive trait. James, the brother of Jesus, longs for us to be steadfast. His letter encourages believers to have a more resilient and concrete faith; not to just hear the word, but to act on it. He calls us to persevere in a world of lies to see that God's steadfast love for us is ultimately the source of our steadfast faith.

Study books may be found on the book table for \$15 each. You may deposit cash or check in the book box and sign your name to the signup sheet, also found on the book table. Bring a friend.

# Save the Date

Family Fun Night: Friday, April 30 at 5:30 p.m. Men's Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, May 8 at 8 a.m.