Participants:

Minister: Mark

Liturgists: Luke, Judi

Prayer: Dirk

Pianist: Pearl

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: A LIVING HOPE**

**WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP**

**Welcome** (Mark)

**God Greets Us**

**All: Amen**

**Song:** Come, Worship God, LU 509: 1, 4

Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor;

enter God’s presence with thanks and a song!

You are the rock of your people’s salvation,

to whom our jubilant praises belong.

Now let us listen, for you speak among us;

open our hearts to receive what you say.

Peace be to all who remember your goodness,

trust in your word, and rejoice in your way!

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**Call to Worship**

**One:**  Though we find ourselves isolated

in homes, apartments, and residential places**,**

**All: we would rejoice that Jesus is in our midst,**

**holding out hands of grace and hope to us!**

**One:**  Though we have to stand at a safe distance

from others, whispering hello through masks**,**

**All: we know that the Spirit is all around us,**

**breathing peace on us in these moments,**

**surrounding us with grace and hope.**

**Opening Prayer**

Gracious God, on this Mother’s Day,

As we are separated from friends and family,

Though our lives seem

so lonely and empty;

When we find ourselves huddling In fear,

you come, Spirit of hope,

to breathe peace upon us,

to always surround us with hope,

to never abandon us to our loneliness.

God in Community, Holy in One,

As we worship,

remind us we are never, ever, apart from you,

That Christ is risen, indeed!

Amen

**Song:** See, What a Morning, LU 181: 1, 2

See, what a morning, gloriously bright,

with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;

folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,

as the angels announce, “Christ is risen!”

See God’s salvation plan,

wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,

fulfilled in Christ the Man,

for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping, “Where is he laid?”—

as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb.

Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;

it’s the Master, the Lord, raised to life again!

The voice that spans the years,

speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,

will sound ’til he appears

for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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**WE CONFESS OUR LACK OF HOPE AND HEAR GOD’S PROMISE**

**Call to Reconciliation**

Today, we are filled with uncertainty, wondering what the next piece of news will bring, what awaits us tonight, tomorrow, this week. Let us confess how hard it is to believe in the resurrection life and hope that is offered to us, as we pray this prayer of confession:

**Prayer for Forgiveness**

God of hope, for many of us today, there will be a virtual celebration of Mother’s Day; but for some, these memories are too painful. We think of those who could not parent, who were afflicted, whose mother has died. Remind us that your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people. Give us that hope that reaches beyond our own lives to help others. Bring us back to you, to the awareness of the hope we have in you. In Christ’s Name, we pray. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

We hear the assurance of pardon in the following words:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Through the resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ,

we have been born anew into a living hope;

we have been given an inheritance that will never pass away!

Blessing and glory

and honor and power and might

be to our God forever and ever!

Amen

**Song:** See, What a Morning, LU 181: 3

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,

through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.

Honor and blessing, glory and praise

to the King crowned with power and authority.

And we are raised with him;

death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered.

And we shall reign with him,

for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

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**Prayers of the People** (Dirk—please conclude with a prayer of illumination)

**WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture**

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NRSV)

A Living Hope

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, 7 so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls

**Message**

**Prayer**

**Song:** I Know That My Redeemer Lives, LU 193: 1, 3, 6, 7

I know that my Redeemer lives!

What joy this blest assurance gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;

he lives, my ever-living head!

He lives to silence all my fears;

he lives to wipe away my tears;

he lives to calm my troubled heart;

he lives all blessing to impart.

He lives and grants me daily breath;

he lives, and I shall conquer death;

he lives my mansion to prepare;

he lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to his name!

He lives, my Savior, still the same;

what joy this blessed assurance gives:

I know that my Redeemer lives!

Isaac Watts | Samuel Medley

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**WE END OUR WORSHIP WITH GOD’S BLESSING AND SONG**

**God Blesses Us**

**All: Amen**

**Song:** Benediction

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father

And the grace of Christ the risen Son

And the fellowship of God the Spirit

Keep our hearts and minds within His love

Chorus

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign

From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n

We declare the name of the Lamb once slain

Christ eternal the King of kings

May this peace which passes understanding

And this grace which makes us what we are

And this fellowship of His communion

Make us one in spirit and in heart

Chorus

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign

From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n

We declare the name of the Lamb once slain

Christ eternal the King of kings

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