



Mural in Sagrada Familia Migrant Shelter, El Paso, TX, photographed by Incarnation's Border Encounter Team on April 25

WELCOME TO INCARNATION

Worship. Welcome. Wonder.

April 28, 2024 | 5th Sunday of Eastertide



Welcome

Thanks for worshipping with us today! At the tables near the entrance, you can find coffee, name tags, and blue visitor cards for sharing prayer requests and contact information. We also have sensory items available to help you enter more fully into worship.

Multigenerational Worship

We are a multigenerational church and welcome children as full participants in our community. Adults are practicing hospitality by welcoming the noise and wiggles of children. Children are practicing reverence by using whispers and quiet movements (parents, please help them practice!). We're all practicing becoming like little children in God's kingdom. Children of all ages are always welcome in the service, and are also invited to the following:

- **Mustard Seed Atrium (Nursery, ages 0-3).** Nursery care for our youngest children is available at 10am in the Courtyard. *The nursery moves indoors to Room 142 in extreme weather*, but most of the time we follow the adage "there's no bad weather, only bad clothing" and remain outdoors — please dress accordingly! All children should be picked up from the nursery during the Passing of the Peace. In the case of insufficient volunteers, the nursery is available on a self-serve basis; parents may use the space, but must remain with their children. There's also a small "nursery nook" for parents to use in the sanctuary during worship.
- **Good Shepherd Atrium (ages 3-6).** Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (a Montessori-based faith formation program) begins at 9:30am in the foyer outside the sanctuary and continues during the service until communion.
- **True Vine Atrium (ages 7-12).** Older children meet for prayer and bible study at 9:30am at the tables at the far side of the sanctuary. When church begins, children may take the provided materials to their seats to worship with their families, or continue working quietly at the tables.

Announcements

- **Today! Heart of L'Arche event.** L'Arche, a community of people with and without disabilities, is a South Arlington neighbor and longtime outreach partner to Incarnation. Celebrate and support their work at the Heart of L'Arche gala. Sunday, April 28, 3-5pm at Meadowlark Gardens. Learn more and RSVP: <https://larche-gwdc.org/heartoflarche24/>
- **May 5: Rogation, Potluck, Parish Meeting.** Sunday, May 5, is Rogation Sunday when we ask God to bless the work of our hands. **Bring an item representing your labors** for a procession. It's also a Cinco de Mayo potluck; **bring a dish to share.** And plan to stay for a **parish meeting after the service.**
- **Midweek Eucharist continues.** We are continuing to partner with Coracle to offer a brief Eucharist service (~30 minutes) every Wednesday at 12pm at Greenbrier Baptist (5401 7th Rd S). All are welcome!
- **April Outreach Partner: Abara.** This month, we pray for our partners serving along the Texas-Mexico border through Abara. A team from Incarnation will take a border encounter trip with Abara April 24-26.
- **After the service, please lend a hand!** If you're able, please help pack one bin or take one item to the entrance for loading on the van — thank you!



Scan the QR code to sign up for our weekly email newsletter, give online, or fill out a welcome card.

A Service of Holy Communion

Processional Song

Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Words, Reginal Heber; Music, John B. Dykes @ Public Domain

Opening Acclamation

- Leader Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
Leader The Lord be with you:
People **And also with you.**
Leader The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it:
People **Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.**
Leader I was glad when they said to me:
People **Let us go to the house of the Lord.**
Leader Praise the Lord:
People **The name of the Lord be praised.**

From Easter until the fall, we use a liturgy from our brothers and sisters in Kenya. This liturgy connects us to the global church and is full of joyful participation!

The Collect for Purity is an English translation of a prayer that has been prayed at the beginning of worship for over a thousand years.

The Collect for Purity

Leader Let us pray:

All **Almighty God, you bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadows of our hearts: Cleanse and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.**

Leader Glory to the Father,

People **Glory to the Son,**

Leader Glory to the Spirit,

People **Forever Three in One.**

Song of Praise

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Nought 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 and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
3. 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.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Collect of the Day & Prayer for Children

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Leader Let us pray.

All **Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

After the reading

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:1-11

Reader Be joyful in God, all you lands; sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.

People **Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.**

Reader All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your Name."

People **Come now and see the works of God, how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.**

Reader He turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in him.

People **In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; let no rebel rise up against him.**

Reader Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard;

People **Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.**

Reader For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

People **You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

Reader You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

Third Reading: 1 John 3:4-24

After the reading

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Procession (sung)

Please stand.

Hallelu - hallelujah! Father, let your kingdom come! (x4)

The Collect of the Day "collects" the people's prayers according to theme of today's readings or of this day of the church calendar.

Jesus welcomed children and taught us to do the same.

During most of the church year, the first reading comes from the Old Testament. However, during Eastertide, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles, telling the aftermath of the resurrection.

The Psalms are the prayer book of the people of God throughout all ages. They cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. They teach us how to pray as we recite them each week.

The four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) tell the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We stand to hear them as a sign of our reverence for Christ the Word. We read the Gospels in the midst of the people because "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. David Griffin

Song of Response

Your Labor is Not in Vain

1. Your labor is not in vain,
Though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained.
Your planting and reaping are never the same,
But your labor is not in vain.

2. Your labor is not unknown,
Though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan.
The place of your toil may not seem like a home,
But your labor is not unknown.

Chorus:

*For I am with you, I am with you.
I am with you, I am with you.
For I have called you,
Called you by name.
Your labor is not in vain.*

3. The vineyards you plant will bear fruit,
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth,
For all that is old will at last be made new:
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

4. The houses you labored to build,
Will finally with laughter and joy be filled.
The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed,
And all that is broken be healed.

Wendell Kimbrough, Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach © Porter's Gate CCLI# 7097868

The Nicene Creed

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Leader Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution

Leader Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God. *[silent confession]*

All **Almighty God, creator of all, you marvelously made us in your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son; remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader Almighty God, whose steadfast love is as great as the heavens are high above the earth, remove your sins from you. As far as the East is from the West, strengthen your life in his kingdom and keep you upright to the last day; through Jesus Christ, our merciful high priest. Amen.

All **Thank you, Father, for forgiveness. We come to your table as your children, not presuming but assured, not trusting ourselves but your Word; we hunger and thirst for righteousness, and ask for our hearts to be satisfied with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ the righteous. Amen.**

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." The Nicene Creed summarizes essential Christian faith and has been said by Christians across traditions, time, and space ever since the 4th century.

Confession is a time to tell the truth about ourselves and our world, aloud and in one voice. Having confessed our sins, we are then assured of God's forgiveness.

*Having made our peace
with God, we can now
make peace with one
another. Use this time to
seek reconciliation with
those you have hurt, or
who have hurt you.
Please also welcome
someone new!*

*The priest sets the table
with the bread and wine
during the offertory.
These gifts represent the
labors of our common
life, given back to God in
worship.*

*We do not pass a
collection plate, but you
are welcome to give
online using the QR code
at the back of the
bulletin.*

The Peace

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

Announcements (see inside cover)

The Eucharist

The Offertory

I Lift My Eyes Up (Psalm 21)

I lift my eyes up unto the mountains
Where does my help come from ?
My help comes from you
Maker of heaven, creator of the earth.

Chorus:

*Oh how I need you, Lord
You are my only hope
You're my only prayer.
So I will wait for you
To come and rescue me,
To come and give me life.*

Brian Doerksen © 1990

Leader All things come from you O Lord.
People **And of your own have we given you.**

The Sursum Corda

Leader Is the Father with us?
People **He is.**
Leader Is Christ among us?
People **He is.**
Leader Is the Spirit here?
People **He is.**
Leader This is our God.
People **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**
Leader We are his people.
People **We are redeemed.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
Leader It is right and our delight to give you thanks and praise, great Father . . .

Sursum Corda means "lift up your heart" in Latin. We are invited to bring our whole selves into the story of the Eucharist.

The Sanctus

Leader . . . Therefore with angels, archangels, faithful ancestors, and all in heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and singing:
All (sung) **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty**
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Sanctus means "holy" in Latin. We join the song of the saints and angels who praise God without ceasing, as described in Isaiah 6:3 and Revelation 4:8.

The Prayer of Consecration

Leader Almighty God, owner of all things . . . On the same night that he was betrayed he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

People **Amen! His body was broken for us.**

Leader In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

People **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Leader We are brothers and sisters through his blood.

People **We have died together,**
We will rise together,
We will live together.

Leader Therefore, heavenly Father, hear us as we celebrate this covenant with joy, and await the coming of our brother, Jesus Christ. He died in our place, making a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. You accepted his offering by raising him from death, and granting him great honor at your right hand on high.

People **Amen. Jesus is Lord.**

Leader This is the feast of victory.

People **The lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Hallelujah!**

The Lord's Prayer

Leader As Jesus taught us, so we pray:

All **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Leader Christ is alive forever.

People **We are because he is.**

Leader We are one body.

People **We share one bread.**

Leader Draw near with faith.

People **Christ is the host and we are his guests.**

Distribution of Communion

All baptized Christians are invited forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten-free bread and wine are available; just ask your server.

If you do not wish to receive communion, please come forward with your arms crossed and we will pray a prayer of blessing.

When trained prayer ministers are available, we offer prayer immediately after communion in the chairs near the stage, continued after the service until all who seek prayer have received it.

All Who Are Thirsty

All who are thirsty,
All who are weak,
Come to the fountain,
Dip your heart in the stream of life.
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy,
As deep cries out to deep, we sing:

*Chorus 1:
Come Lord Jesus, come (repeat)*

*Chorus 2:
Holy Spirit, come (repeat)*

*Bridge:
As deep cries out to deep (x3)
We sing . . .*

*Brenton Brown, Glenn Robertson © 1998
Vineyard Songs CCLI # 2489542*

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

*Chorus:
We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

1. We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord, our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

2. In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

3. Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful One
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom

*Sandra McCracken © 2015 Drink Your Tea Music CCLI#
7041364*

The Prayer after Communion

All **Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at your feet, learned from your word, and eaten from your table. We give you thanks and praise for accepting us into your family. Send us out with your blessing, to live and to witness for you in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.**

Leader All our problems

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Leader All our difficulties

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Leader All the devil's works

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Leader All our hopes

People **We set on the risen Christ.**

The Blessing

Leader Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path: and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Leader Go out into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**