

BERN REFORMED UCC -MAY 5, 2024



PRELUDE: "Awake, Awake To Love And Work" - Gumma

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER SHARING

CALL TO WORSHIP: Ps 98 "Cantate Domino" (*Latin: "Sing To The Lord"*)

LEADER: Sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things.

PEOPLE: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

LEADER: Lift up your voice; rejoice, sing, shout; with joy before the Lord.

**PEOPLE: Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD!**

(Isaac Watts led in the development of hymns in the English tradition, drawing many of his hymn texts directly from the Psalms. The song we know as 'Joy To The World' is based upon the 98th Psalm)

HYMN #120 "JOY TO THE WORLD"

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let Earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room And Heaven and nature sing And Heaven and nature sing. And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

2. Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods; rocks hills and plains; repeat the sounding joy. Repeat the sounding joy. Repeat! Repeat! Repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove, The glories of His righteousness; And wonders of His love; And wonders of His love. And wonders, wonders of His love

ACTS 10 VIDEO (Acts 10:44-48) While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

ANTHEM: "Down To The River To Pray"

- Curry

SERMON: "The Holy Spirit Fell Upon Them"

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17 Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. **I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

We confess one name, and one Lord!

We believe that the unity of the people of God is manifested and activated, in the way we love one another.

We give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another.

We are united as we eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

We join in prayer for the coming of God's kingdom on earth.

Our one hope is in the height, breadth, and depth, of the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

PASTOR: This table is for all of us, near and far, high and low, east and west and north and south. This table is for all of us, but it is not our table. We are invited to the banquet of God.

PASTOR: The Lord be with you. **PEOPLE: And also with you.**

PASTOR: Lift up your hearts. **PEOPLE: We lift them to the Lord.**

PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PASTOR: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the prophets of old, with the apostles and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**SERAPHIC HYMN #1 Vs. 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!**

PASTOR: (I Cor. 11: 23-29)

PRAYER and OUR LORD'S PRAYER

THE COMMUNION

THE BODY OF CHRIST (BREAD) "Go Down to the River"

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST (FRUIT OF THE VINE) "Behold the Lamb"

HYMN #272 "LOVE DIVINE ALL LOVES EXCELLING"

- 1. Love divine all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.**
- 2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3. Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**
- 4. Finish, then, thy new creation; true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love & praise.**

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Fugue in G Major" - J.S. Bach

**"YOUTUBE" Make an Opportunity to view this hour presentation:
"THE HOLY LAND Israel and Palestine Today" by Rick Steves**

Attendance last week - 66