

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(Gilbert only) Bells Call to Worship, Junior Choir

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

EASTER KYRIE:

Chorus:

L: You've freed us from sin and conquered
death,

ALL: Alleluia.

L: Gave us new life, renewed our breath,

ALL: Alleluia.

L: You are the Way,
the Truth, and the Life, O Lord.

ALL: Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse: (Leader only)

Risen Lord, our Shepherd true,
You lead us through death into life anew;
Guide us in all that we do,
And bless Your church, forever we worship You;

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING:

Let us pray.

God of love and life,

**we give you thanks for those who have cared for us
with compassion, strength, and tenderness,
reflecting your love in the world.**

Today we ask a blessing on mothers and mother figures
and all who nurture and guide others,
whose daily acts of care reveal your grace.

**On this day, we also remember
that it carries many emotions and stories.**

Where there is joy, deepen it.

Where there is grief or longing, meet us with your comfort.

Hold us all in your steadfast love, and send us out to share that love with others;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: ELW 641 All Are Welcome (vs. 1, 3, 5)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
Refrain

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
Refrain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: **Alive Alive** (*Sunday Tempe/Gilbert*)

Chorus

Alive alive alive forevermore
My Jesus is alive alive forevermore
Alive alive alive forevermore
My Jesus is alive

Verse

Sing hallelujah sing hallelujah
My Jesus is alive forevermore
Sing hallelujah sing hallelujah
My Jesus is alive

Sat 5pm Tempe: **NO Children's Message**
Sunday Tempe & Gilbert: *Sing at all services*

Bob Singleton
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TEMPE SPECIAL MUSIC:

You Are!

Sanctuary Choir

GILBERT SPECIAL MUSIC:

Jesus Son of God Most High,

Jr Choir, Choir Moms and Choir Ladies

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EASTER GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Christ Is Risen

Refrain

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ is risen, praise His name!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
His great love we now proclaim!

Verse

See, the stone is rolled away,
the silent tomb could not contain,
Jesus Christ is risen indeed,

He lives and reigns, forevermore!

Refrain

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ is risen, praise His name!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
His great love we now proclaim!
And in this Love we will remain

Text and music: Joni Van Rossum, ©2025

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON:

"If You Love Me"
Pastor Glen Stadler
(Sat 5pm/Sunday Tempe)

""
Pastor Thaddeus Book
(Gilbert)

SONG OF THE DAY: Goodness of God

Verse 1

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other

I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

God of resurrection,

We pray for your church throughout the world. Empower all believers to serve with courage, compassion, and love. Guide us to follow your example of hospitality, so that your Spirit may unite us as one body in Christ. Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

Bring an end to violence, injustice, and division in every nation. Inspire world leaders and communities to seek peace, justice, and the well-being of all people, especially those who are vulnerable or oppressed. Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

Surround all who are ill or suffering with your hope and healing and bless all those who are caregivers (especially) ... Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for all the saints who rest in eternal life. Give us assurance in your promises and bring comfort to our hearts for all those we grieve. Lord, in your mercy;
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE:

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a word of peace with our neighbors.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

The grace of Christ calls us to lives of gratitude and generosity. In Jesus Christ we are given new life. Let us celebrate this life by giving generously to the work of God's redeeming love.

The Hunger Jar is a love offering and is designated for Gathering Humanity.

You are invited to share your gifts in worship while others give electronically at www.desertcross.org with the giving button, text giving, or by QR code. We give thanks for all the ways you support God's mission of outreach through Desert Cross that changes lives for the sake of the gospel

OFFERING SONG: Because He Lives (Amen)

Verse 1

I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood

Chorus

Amen amen
I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
Amen amen
Let my song join the one that never ends

Verse 2

I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away

Bridge

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life

My future in His hand

Ending

Because He lives

Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher,
William J. Gaither
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OFFERING PRAYER:

Risen Lord,
in this Easter season we thank you for new life.
With gratitude and joy, we offer our gifts—
may they share your hope and love with the world.
Bless all that we give, that your light may shine through us.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

This is Christ's table. There is a place for you.
All are welcome.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

Come forward to receive the bread and a cup of wine/juice. Alert an usher for communion in your seat. All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW p.208 - Lamb of God (Setting 10)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION SONG 1: ELW 479 We Come to the Hungry Feast

1 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

2 We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.

We come, we come to the hungry feast.

3 We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Text © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISTRIBUTION SONG 2: Make Room

Verse 1

Here is where I lay it down
Every burden every crown
This is my surrender
This is my surrender
Here is where I lay it down
Every lie and every doubt
This is my surrender

Chorus

And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to
To do whatever you want to
And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to
To do whatever you want to

Bridge

Shake up the ground of all my tradition
Break down the walls of all my religion
Your way is better
Your way is better

Ending

Here is where I lay it down
You are all I'm chasing now
This is my surrender

Evelyn Heideriqui, Josh Farro, Lucas Cortazio, Rebekah White
CCLI Song #7122057

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER:

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Gracious God,

Nourish us by your grace and fill us with Easter joy.

Make us witnesses to your living presence in the world, giving thanks for all your gifts
and sharing your peace with all people through Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor +

And give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story,

here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you,

here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

**Thank you
for supporting the Desert Cross mission.
Here are the ways you can donate today:**

ONLINE GIVING:



Get your smart phone
and scan the QR-code
with your phone camera

SECURE TEXT GIVING:

Text "GIVE" to
833-636-1502

USPS:

8600 S. McClintock Drive
Tempe, AZ 85284

Flower Donation:

The flowers on the altar in Tempe this weekend are by Carol Carrier.