Order of Worship April 28, 2024

Knox Presbyterian Church of LA Hospitality Fifth Sunday after Easter

Words to Ponder: "Hospitality: making your guests feel at home, even if you wish they were."

(Justine Vogt)

Gathering Music "Here I am to Worship" Hillsong Worship

Words of Welcome | \*Passing the Peace Rev. Ann Hayman

Call to Worship Cicely Bingener

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

\*Opening Hymn "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" PH #220

Call to Confession Cicely Bingener

## **Unison Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.

## **Words of Assurance** (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

**Time with Children** "Where in the World Is Ethiopia?" Rev. Ann Hayman

**Reception of New Members**Elder Robert Duitsman, Rev. Ann Hayman

Members to be received: Gena Lofton, Garrett Brown

Anthem "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" Erica Blyther

Prayer for Illumination Cicely Bingener

Scripture Psalm 22:25-31 Cicely Bingener

**Sermon** "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" Rev. Ann Hayman

Acts 8:26-40

**Words of Faith** (adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Ann Hayman

The Offering

Call to Giving Cicely Bingener

Offertory "Down to the River to Pray" Erica Blyther

\*Doxology Hense Powell

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, praise God above all heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication** 

Cicely Bingener

**Announcements** Cicely Bingener

\*Closing Hymn "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" PH #343

\*Benediction Rev. Ann Hayman

May you leave this place to be the most hospitable folks you know, to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world, offering love and grace to all you meet.

And may you be blessed by the triune God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude Hense Powell