



**ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 9, 2021**

PRELUDE

Carl Braden

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Stacy

INTROIT

"We are Standing on Holy Ground"

Joe Weir

**We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev Richard Kleiman

One: We gather to worship as people of Easter,
All: people who know Life is stronger than death.
One: We gather to worship as children of God,
All: children loved and claimed by the risen Lord.
One: We gather to worship as the body of Christ,
All: the church called out for service in the world.
One: Easter people, Christ is risen!
All: Christ is risen indeed!

HYMN NO. 475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Congregation

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev Richard Kleiman

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words.
(Romans 8:26)
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, whose love knows no bounds,
forgive us when we fail to reflect Your loving kindness.
When we turn away from the goodness of Your love,
call us back with the tender voice of a caring friend.
When we stumble over the gift of Your grace,
lift us up with the strong arms of a loving parent.
When we are certain that we are alone in the chaos of this world,
shower us with peace, the gentle breeze of an evening rain.
When we cannot feel the flowing of Your peace,
show us Your love with the hands and feet of Christ, Your love incarnate.
Forgive us, risen Christ, of all the ways we fall short,
and teach us to be agents of resurrection in the world.**

Silently pray your personal prayers of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev Richard Kleiman

One: Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Acts 2:17, 2)
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God.

PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev Richard Kleiman

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev Richard Kleiman

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev Richard Kleiman

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of Your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by Your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:44-48 (NRSV)

Rev Richard Kleiman

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ 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, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 5:1-6 (NRSV)

Rev Richard Kleiman

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

ANTHEM*"Create in Me"*

Carl Braden

GOSPEL READING

John 15:9-17 (NRSV)

Rev Richard Kleiman

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

SERMON*"All You Need Is Love"*

Rev Richard Kleiman

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22)

OFFERTORY

Carl Braden

DOXOLOGY

Congregation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev Richard Kleiman

In the blessed hope of the resurrection,
we pray to the Lord of endless life, saying:
By Your grace, O God, **raise us from death to life.**

Life-giving God, we pray for the church . . .
Pour out the gift of Your Holy Spirit upon us,
so that we may speak Your truth and live Your love
as believers in the body of Christ our Lord.
By Your grace, O God, **raise us from death to life.**

Life-giving God, we pray for the world . . .
Let the whole earth make a joyful noise to You.
Let the sea laugh and the mountains sing
in the justice and joy of Your presence.
By Your grace, O God, **raise us from death to life.**

Life-giving God, we pray for this community . . .
Help us to love one another as Christ loves us,
laying down our lives for those in need,
so that all may know fullness and joy in You.
By Your grace, O God, **raise us from death to life.**

Life-giving God, we pray for loved ones . . .
Let those who struggle with sickness and sorrow
know your victory over the powers of sin and death.
Surround and sustain them with Your love.
By Your grace, O God, **raise us from death to life.**

Eternal God, show forth in us and in our world
the good news of Your saving power and love,
so that all may believe and have life in You;
through Jesus Christ, who is risen indeed. **Amen.**

**All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 839

“Blessed Assurance”

Congregation

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev Richard Kleiman

CLOSING RESPONSE HYMN

“Will You Come and Follow Me” (vs 1)

Congregation

**“Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown;
will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?”**

POSTLUDE

Carl Braden

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We lift prayers to the Lord for friends and family:

- Those who have contracted Covid-19 and family and friends of those affected.
- The country of India experiencing a high rate of Covid infections and those resulting in death
- Frontline and essential workers with increased exposure to Covid.
- Migrant children at the border.
- Interim pastor search committee.
- The Mills family.
- Deondra, Ann Owen’s granddaughter, and her young clients at CPS.
- Maddy, Ellen & Russ Nipe’s granddaughter.
- Mazie Williams
- George Clark
- Bart Baker
- Dave Lasinsky
- Carol Hedgepath
- Richard Munoz
- Sandy Lee’s cousin
- Sine McCarty
- Nina Petty, Carroll Hebert’s sister-in-law.
- Frank Zamora, Ron Powell’s friend, diagnosed with cancer.
- Janice Rainer, Tommy Russell’s sister, diagnosed with cancer.
- Alexis Peregoy, Ray Peregoy’s daughter-in-law, diagnosed with cancer.
- The Landry family and their missing son, Jason.
- Wayne Parker, Elaine McCool’s friend.
- Peace and comfort to family and friends of Phyllis Todd, Shelley Craig’s friend and mentor, who passed away at the age of 101.
- Addie Kephart and Bev O’Brien.