



And it was...
So Very Good!

Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 14, 2023

*Please stand
As you are able

Welcome and Announcements

Trinity Chimes

Prelude *I Love to Tell the Story* arr. Albin C. Whitworth
Kathryn Snodgrass, piano;
Janet Tolman, organ

*Call to Worship:

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***Hymn of Praise** 152 *I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

FOREST GREEN

1. I sing the almighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord,
who filled the earth with food,
who formed the creatures thru the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.

3. There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care;
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

Opening Prayer

Transforming God, you have taken darkness and re-created a world filled with life, light, and joy. You take what is unknown and turn it into blessed mystery, you take what feels like loss and turn it into

gain. In you all things are whole and brought to fulfillment, and so we sing out your praise and declare, AMEN.

Scripture Lesson Psalm 66:8-20 (UMH 790)

Bless our God, O peoples,
 let the sound of God's praise be heard;
who has kept us among the living,
 and has not let our feet slip.
For you, O God, have tested us;
 you have tried us as silver is tried.
You brought us into the net;
 you laid affliction on our loins;
you let people ride over our heads;
 we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us forth to a spacious place.
I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
 I will pay you my vows,
That which my lips uttered
 And my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,
 With the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make offering of bulls and goats.
Come and hear, all you who worship God,
 And I will tell what God has done for me.
I cried aloud to God,
 Who has highly praised with my tongue.
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart.
 The Lord would not have listened.
But truly God has listened,
 And has given heed to the voice of my prayer.
Blessed to God,
 Who has not rejected my prayer

Or removed his steadfast love for me.

Music of Preparation *O Love* by Elaine Hagenberg
Lichi Acosta, cello
The Chancel Choir

Scripture Lesson Acts 17:22-31

Sermon So Very Good Pt. 3

Musical Response

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, the world began with Your blessing, "it is very good". All things were working together to reveal Your signs and wonder. We lost track of paradise in our yearning for more, for everything. But you return us to one another, reminding us that together, in the breaking of the bread, in sharing of our tables, in praises we offer up together we meet Christ. We are saved. Forgive us for the ways we stray away, and remind us that in Christ, we find wholeness and restoration.

Leader: Hear the good news: God walked upon this earth sharing our human life in Jesus Christ,

All: God has conquered sin and death forgiving us all through Love and Grace

Leader: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God, amen!

The 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. Amen**

***Passing of the Peace**

Invitation Offering

Offertory *Jesus Loves Me* arr. Albin C. Whitworth
Kathryn Snodgrass, piano;
Janet Tolman, organ

***Doxology 94** *Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
God, all creatures here be low: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise
Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts! Praise
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Offertory Prayer**

***Sending Hymn 2001** *We Sing to You, O God*

DARWALL'S 148th

1. We sing to you, O God the Rock who gave us
birth, let our rejoicing sing your name in
all the earth. To you, O God, let

songs be raised, in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

2. We wandered far from home out in a desert
Land, you shielded with your love our fearful
pilgrim band. You kept us safe with in your
arms and sheltered us against the storm.

3. You bear us through the world, an eagle in her
young, who rises on her wings and bears us
toward the sun. We ride the vaults of light
and air and trust in your unfailing care.

4. O God, eternal God, we hide with in your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.
your word is true, your way is just, you are
the God in whom we trust.

***Benediction**

**May the Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace. Amen**

Postlude *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. John Innes
Kathryn Snodgrass, piano;
Janet Tolman, organ.

Liturgist: Susan Schreiner

Stephen Minister: Susan Schreiner

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff who made this service possible!

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“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715

“We Sing to You, O God ”

Words: Garcia Grindal(Deut. 32:11, 18;33:27; Ps. 57:1; 66:2;96:1-2)

If you have any questions, please call the office: 520.327.1116 or
send us an e-mail: office@ccumtucson.org.

Our Staff contact information

John Neve - Bell Choir Director

john@ccumtucson.org

Janet Tolman – Organist

janet@ccumtucson.org

Sinamar Respicio – Choir Director

choir@ccumtucson.org

Mary Beth Buttler – Communications

communications@ccumtucson.org

Candi Eppley – Office Administrator

office@ccumtucson.org

Rev. Beth Rambikur

pastor@ccumtucson.org

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