



Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

1 May 2016 at 10:45

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Prelude

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, welcome home, children of God. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Choral Introit

Entrance Antiphon from Psalm 25

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.

We trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.

Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.

Guide our every move, Holy One, that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.

Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.

Together, let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, we place ourselves in your presence this morning. Our minds and our spirits are cluttered. Help us make space for you. We release to you all that weighs us down this morning. We release all that we feel like we should have done, but did not do. We entrust to your care all of the people who weigh on our hearts and minds this evening. All of the thoughts, all of the feelings that pull us away from you, O God, we release, so that we may come to you now with open hearts and receive the gift of this space and this time. We receive the gift of being with each person here. We receive the Holy Spirit's presence within us for guidance and healing. We receive the sacred words that will be spoken and thought. We receive the holy touch of hand and heart. We receive the silence, the music, and the peace of your deep, abiding presence. We offer all of ourselves to you, our God. Amen

†**Hymn 402:** *How Lovely, Lord*

+ + + LITURGY OF THE WORD + + +

†**The Peace**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another...

†**Prayer for Illumination** (Hymn #450: *Be Thou My Vision*, v1)

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

First Reading: (Matthew 21:23–27 NRSV)

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

Children’s Time

Sermon

†**Hymn 81:** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

Prayers of the People

We gather in the presence of this community and in your presence, O Lord, to give thanks, to pray for your blessing upon the world, and to unburden our spirits of all that weighs us down.

And so we confess, Lord, that we so often get hung up asking the same question as the Pharisees, distrusting the movement of your Spirit through people with

whom we disagree or in ways outside of our comfort or experience. The religious authorities asked Jesus by whose authority he acted in your name; we, likewise, allow doubts and skepticism to keep us from experiencing your Spirit working through others. And the truth is, God, when we're honest with ourselves, the authority we trust the most is our own.

But that is pride, not faith. And pride keeps us from experiencing your love to its fullest. Pride hampers our spiritual growth, deceiving us into thinking we already have all the answers.

Help us to learn from our ancestors in the faith – both the orthodox and the heretics. From the Montanists this morning, remind us that your Spirit will not be constrained by our rules, our traditions, our limited understanding of the ways you work in the world.

We humbly lift up to your work in this world the people and places we love today, especially...

Merciful God, you sent your son, Jesus Christ, to show us a different way to live—the way of deep humility and obedience. You've called us to love one another, and to work together with one heart and mind, balancing our needs with the needs of those around us. Give us courage to follow faithfully, and with integrity—with actions that bear witness to the words we speak, and worship that overflows into our daily tasks and relationships—so that our lives will bring glory and honor to you, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

+ + + LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST + + +

Offering

Looking forward to that day when people will hunger and thirst no more, and God will wipe away every tear, and we will worship with all the saints around the throne of the Lamb, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

†Doxology (Hymn #609)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known!
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†Prayer of Thanksgiving

All things come from you, O God,
and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to render to you all that
we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips
only, but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the sorrows, and
the joys of all our days into a living sacrifice to you; through our
Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

+ + + **SENDING** + + +

†Hymn 832: *Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand*

†Charge and Blessing

O Lord, take our minds and think through them;
take our lips and speak through them;
take our lives and live out your life;
take our hearts and set them on fire with love for thee;
and guide us ever by thy Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†Congregational Response

May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back;
May the sun shine warmly on your face;
May the rain fall softly on your fields;
And until we meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

Postlude

Announcements

Five Cents a Meal Offering will be received this morning, and the first Sunday of each month. Please give generously to this offering which goes directly to hunger ministries in our community and around the world.

Mission Interpretation and Stewardship (MIS) committee will meet this evening, Sunday, 1 May, at 5pm for its regular bimonthly meeting.

Women's Group will meet tomorrow evening, Monday, 2 May.

- Hostess: **Edwina C**
- Mission Interpretation: **Marilyn B**
- Bible Study: _____ (Lesson 5)
- Mission Project **(May): Sunset Gap**
- Mission Project **(June): Church World Service**
- Mission Project **(July): Morgan Scott & Birthday Offering**

Dates for your Calendar: While a few weeks away, there are a few things coming up worth adding to your calendar...

- 22 May – Spring Picnic and Worship in the Pavilion
- **20-23 June** – Vacation Bible School ****NOTE THE CHAGE IN DATES FOR VBS!!****

This Week at TRPC

Week of 4 May	Next Sunday (8 May)	Food Bank & Samaritan's Purse (May)
6:30 – Dinner, graduation celebration, and crafts with Nancy Katherine	Heresies, pt. 5 (Pelagius and Ephesians 2:1-10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crackers (FB) • Ball caps and sunglasses (SP)

Worship Leadership

Date	Acolyte	Usher	Communion
1 May	Wallace W	Kenton C	N/A
8 May	Blair S	Gary M	N/A
15 May	Addison G	Doyle E	April M
22 May	Kenton C	Will E	Marilyn B
29 May	Addison G	Doug R	N/A