



1175 BIRNEY LANE
CINCINNATI, OH 45230
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PRAISE ABLAZE

MAY 5, 2024 • 11:00 AM • SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened through the study of God's Word and empowered to live as His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; a small area is set up in the atrium for children with "wiggles"; and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the rear parking lot entrance to your left as you exit the atrium doors of the Multi-Ministry Center (MMC).

Guests, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the *Guest* side of the *Welcome Card* found in the pews/chair backs and place it in the offering baskets.

As We Gather: We practice soul care when we prioritize authenticity and vulnerability in our spiritual walks and lives. This includes openly acknowledging our fears, doubts, and shortcomings to ourselves and to our Lord. When we're honest in confession and complete surrender, God can comfort, renew, refresh, and restore us.

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Dan Mikow
Children's Message	Sandy Brown	Elder	Dan Hamilton
Cont. Worship Ldr.	Dyann Cooper	Acolyte	Henry Brown
		Tech	Matt Blankenship

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Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Opening Worship

*Good Good Father
Peace Be Still*

Call to Worship

Opening Sentences/ Confession and Absolution

Children's Message

God's Word *(see opposite or screens)*

*Acts 10:34–48
Psalm 42
John 15:9–17*

(Children dismissed for Children's Church)

Offering *(Thanks for your support of God's mission here.)*

Today's Message

(Children return from Children's Church)

What We Believe

The Apostles' Creed

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Song

Stand in your Love

Dismissal

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FIRST READING

Acts 10:34–48

(People from every nation are accepted by God.)

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

SECOND READING

Psalms 42

(Why are you cast down, O my soul?)

42 As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" ⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a

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SECOND READING *(cont.)*

multitude keeping festival. ⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation ⁶ and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. ⁷ Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me. ⁸ By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. ⁹ I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" ¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" ¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9–17

(Obeying Christ's commands and remaining in His love)

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I 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 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

Acknowledgments

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