



Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 15, 2022

PRELUDE

”Andante sostenuto” from *Symphonie Gothique*

Charles-Marie Widor
(1844-1937)

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God!

Rev. Ann Herlin

INTROIT

“The Lord is Great” from *The Creation*

Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano

James Huchla, tenor

William Heim, bass

F. J. Haydn
(1732-1809)

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord, all the earth!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord from the heights.

Praise the name of the Lord to people near and far, young and old.

We will praise the name of the Lord to all people, everywhere!

Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

▲ HYMN 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Robert R. Laha

Holy God, you command us to love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You command us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature. You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way. Forgive us, we pray. Guide us in the work of your kingdom so that you will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ ACT OF PRAISE 239

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing
Verse 1

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOD'S WORD TO US

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 13: 31-35

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me
Text from John 14:15-18

Thomas Tallis
(1505-1585)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

May God be with you there.
May God be with us here.
May God be with everyone, everywhere. Amen.

Mrs. Noelle Castin

▲ HYMN 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

SERMON

True Love

Dr. Robert R. Laha

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from I John 4

We love because God loves us. We believe God is love, therefore, we believe that whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in them. We believe there is no fear in love because love casts out fear.

If we say, "We love God," and hate our neighbors, the truth is not in us. If we cannot love those whom we have seen, then we cannot love God whom we have not seen. We believe God commands us to love our neighbors as ourselves. No exceptions.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Ann Herlin

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Achieved is the glorious work” from *The Creation*

F. J. Haydn
(1732-1809)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

▲ DOXOLOGY 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 DEDICATION

▲ HYMN 300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

▲ CLOSING PRAYER

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Richard Smallwood

▲ POSTLUDE

Improvisation (Toccata) on LOBE DEN HERREN

Steven Seigart
(b. 1990)

▲ Please stand as you are able

Congregation reads the "bold" text

MUSIC NOTES

This Sunday, the choir returns to a familiar anthem by English Renaissance composer Thomas Tallis, who was one of the chief royal court composers of the English Reformation (and thus had to change the style and language of his compositions based on who was on the throne). Tallis' setting of our Gospel text is simple and immediate, straightforward, and beautiful. One can only imagine being a congregant in this tumultuous time, one week hearing florid (and possibly unintelligible) Latin motets and the next hearing something like "If Ye Love Me" in one's own language. What an effect it must have had! **We'll also have some excerpts from Haydn's oratorio *The Creation*, which will be heard in full TODAY at 3:00 PM with our Festival Choir and Orchestra!** First, a short but virtuosic "chorus of praise" in which the stately choral parts support the three soloists in their elaborate riffs; and at the offertory, the second of two choruses on this text that close Part II (the sixth day of creation). Although this one is clearly modeled on Handel's *Hallelujah* chorus, Haydn ends his version with the more Austrian "Alleluia." To open the service, you'll hear a beautiful introspective organ piece by Parisian composer Charles-Marie Widor (known for his famous *Toccata*) from his second-to-last organ "symphony" based entirely on Gregorian chant, and to close, an improvisation in the French toccata-style (à la Widor) on the opening hymn.

Today

Our prayers are newly offered for Neva Schield (Sally Laha's mother); Bonnie Nelson (Sally Laha's sister) and Allyson Hazzard's parents.

To receive regular prayer updates, email Vicki, vstones@opmh.org.

Duty Elder is Morgan Jones and Duty Deacon is Dara Surratt.

The flowers are arranged by Anne Hobbs and Anne Irving.

Please join us after worship, in the Courtyard, for Fellowship Hour hosted by Service and Justice: ALIVE! and Alexandria Tutoring Consortium.

Live worship today is available at [11:00 AM at opmh.org/livestream](http://opmh.org/livestream).

Recordings are available at vimeo.com/opmh.

Upcoming

- Sundays:
 - 9:15 AM-12:15 PM, Childcare for infants and toddlers in the Infant Nursery (Room 14 – Education Building).
 - 9:30-10:30 AM, Children's Sunday School begins with music for all ages in heaven (top floor of Education Building) followed by an interactive Bible lesson (PreK-1st grade – Room 13, 2nd-5th grade – Room 20).
 - Contact Mary Pratt Perry, mpratt@opmh.org, for Middle School and High School Youth Group schedule.
- *TODAY!* Haydn's *The Creation* 250th anniversary concert, May 15, 3:00 PM, featuring the Festival Chorus and Orchestra, opmh.org/250th
- Youth End of Year Celebration (for all youth families and volunteers), June 5, 5:00-7:00 PM, RSVP to Mary Perry, mpratt@opmh.org
- 250th Reunion Weekend, June 23-26, opmh.org/250th

For a complete listing of weekly and upcoming events, visit opmh.org.

WAYS TO GIVE

1. Leave your offering in the offering plates.
2. Give online at opmh.org/give or snap the QR code at right.
3. Text **opmh** to 73256
4. Mail a check to 323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314.



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Dr. Steven Seigart, Director of Music and Organist • Mrs. Noelle Castin, Director of Christian Education • Mrs. Mary Pratt Perry, Youth Director
Mr. Aaron Siirila, Business Administrator • Mrs. Ellen Haas, Membership and Accounting • Mrs. Vicki Stones, Communications Office Manager