Carmel Presbyterian Church Third Sunday of Easter May 1, 2022 10:00 am



Order of Worship

* Please stand, as able.

Congregation voices **Bold** responses.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

We gather as a community of faith to meet God in new ways, and we reflect on the hope and promise of God's gift to us through Jesus Christ.

Welcome and Greetings – Pastor Peter

Prelude "Be Thou My Vision" Paul Manz

(Hymn tune: Slane)

* Call to Worship (Spoken responsively) – Pastor Peter

We have traveled from the horror of Good Friday to the joy and celebration of Easter.

We will give thanks to you forever, O God.

The Lord has turned our sorrow and sadness into dancing and joy.

We will give thanks to you forever, O God.

We come now to worship the one who transforms fear into resurrection love.

We will give thanks to you forever, O God.

* Hymn 150 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Madrid

Call to Confession – Pastor Peter

Do not let your hearts be troubled, but confess your sins and God will give you peace. Let us confess together.

Prayer of Confession (In unison) – Pastor Peter

Resurrected One, you have proven that nothing can defeat the power of your love, and yet we continue to nurture our doubts. Time and again, you demonstrate your ability to transform despair in our human story into miraculous hope in your divine narrative, and yet we make ourselves at home in the pit of desolation. Over and over, you patiently plan your seeds of joy, and yet we continue to scoff at the puny seedlings that sprout as if we've never before witnessed the tenacity of your regenerative Spirit. God, call us again to follow you. Show us again the miracle of your abundance. Lead us again from the depths of our fear into the Easter light of your never-failing love...

(A moment of silence for personal reflection & confession...)

Amen. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Spoken responsively; Adapted from Psalm 30:2-3) – Pastor Peter

Hear this song of praise that God's people have been singing for thousands of years:

"O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit."

God heals all wounds, rescues all sinners, and forgives all debts.

Let us join the song of praise! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* Gloria Patri – Hymn 567

"Glory to the Father"

John Weaver

* Passing of the Peace (Spoken responsively) – Pastor Peter

We are Easter people; let us embody the joy of the resurrection as we greet one another in the name of Christ. Use these or similar words of greeting with energy and excitement:

"Christ is offering new life to you."

(Greet one another sharing God's peace now and throughout the week.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

We hear the stories of our faith in scripture, song, prayer, and sermon.

Children's Message – Pastor Peter

(Following the Children's Message, children third-grade and below are invited to depart for Children's Worship downstairs in Carmel Hall.)

Unison Prayer for Illumination (In unison) – Led by Denise Abraham

Let us pray:

Open our eyes that we may see. Open our ears to hearing of your Word, read and proclaimed. Open our hearts that we may feel your Spirit stirring. Let us open the eyes and ears of our hearts, so that we may hear the words of challenge and comfort that the Spirit brings us this morning. Amen.

First Reading — Read by Denise Abraham

The first lectionary reading is Acts, chapter 9, verses 1-20 (119-120). On the road to Damascus, Saul sees a blinding light, encounters Jesus, and is converted. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Meanwhile, Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest, seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven encircled him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you harassing me?"

Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?"

"I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. "Now get up and enter the city. You will be told what you must do."

Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. After they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes but he couldn't see. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

He answered, "Yes, Lord."

The Lord instructed him, "Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands on him to restore his sight."

Ananias countered, "Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. He's here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who calls on your name."

The Lord replied, "Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. After eating, he regained his strength.

He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. Right away, he began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declared.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading – Read by Denise Abraham

Our second reading from the lectionary is Revelation, chapter 5, verses 11-14. The choirs of heaven sing: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain! Amen. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Then I looked, and I heard the sound of many angels surrounding the throne, the living creatures, and the elders. They numbered in the millions—thousands upon thousands. They said in a loud voice,

"Worthy is the slaughtered Lamb to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and might, and honor, glory, and blessing."

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea—I heard everything everywhere say,

"Blessing, honor, glory, and power belong to the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb forever and always."

Then the four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshipped.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel Reading – Read by Pastor Peter

The gospel reading from the lectionary is John, chapter 21, verses 1-19, pp. 109-110. Jesus appears to the disciples; a miraculous catch of fish; Jesus tells Simon Peter: Feed my sheep. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Later, Jesus himself appeared again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened: Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples were together. Simon Peter told them, "I'm going fishing." They said, "We'll go with you." They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't realize it was Jesus. Jesus called to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?"

They answered him, "No."

He said, "Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some."

So they did, and there were so many fish that they couldn't haul in the net. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they weren't far from shore, only about one hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you've just caught." Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore. It was full of large fish, one hundred fifty-three of them. Yet the net hadn't torn, even with so many fish. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples could bring themselves to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep." He asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love me?" He replied, "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don't want to go." He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, "Follow me."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Inspired by the promise of God's Word, let us give our thanks and praise – so we may continue God's work as we move into God's week.

* Hymn 525 (Stanzas 1-2)

"Here I Am, Lord"

Here I Am, Lord

Invitation to the Offering – Pastor Peter

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church to the community—both local and global. Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary, give it online, or mail your offering envelope to the church office.)

The Holy One has given us fish and bread for a lifetime. Let us now share from our bounty that God's will may be done through our gifts.

Offertory

"Now the Green Blade Rises" Sanctuary Choir

arr. Alan Bullard Traditional French

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom we had slain, Thinking that he never would awake again, Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for the three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead our risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Then your touch can call us back to life again; Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green!

(Text: J. M. C. Crum, 1872-1958)

* Doxology 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Old Hundredth

(An Usher will bring the Offering Plate forward, returning it to the rear of the Sanctuary.)

* Prayer of Dedication of Time, Gifts, and Tithes – Led by Denise Abraham Let us pray,

Generous God, you have given us nothing less than new life. We pray that our thanksgiving and rejoicing will find a home through our gifts to you. In mission, outreach, and ministry, may we live out resurrection hope each day as we answer your call to feed your sheep. With grateful hearts, we pray in the name of the living Christ. Amen.

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Sharing Joys and Concerns – Pastor Peter

Invitation to The Lord's Table

As we come to the table of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and with the risen Christ.

We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.

Great Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we give thanks that through Christ, we live in your favor.

We give thanks that through Christ, we come to the table of grace partaking of heavenly food and the gift of salvation.

Bring to God all the fears and anger you have.

God will heal your life.

Bring to God the sadness you feel.

God will heal your life.

Bring to God the loneliness and sorrow.

God will heal your life.

Do not be afraid, for Christ has called you.

Christ brings you new life.

Reach out in service and love to others.

Christ brings new life to all.

Rejoice, sing with joy!

God heals us and Christ restores our lives! Let us praise God with our whole hearts. Let us serve God by serving others.

Like the great company of witnesses who came to this table before us, we are filled with gratitude and joy for your many blessings.

We come before you in praise and thanksgiving, as we commit ourselves again as members of the living body of Christ.

Therefore, with people of every nation, tribe, and language, with the whole Church throughout the ages, we bring ourselves: all that we are, and all that we are not, joyfully giving thanks and singing:

Sanctus – Hymn 581 (Sung by the congregation)

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Joseph Roff

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

In light of this, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ's spirit renews our lives.

Holy God, may our hearts and minds be alive to what is sacred in these symbols of bread and wine. May they open us to your guidance and love for us, all humankind, and all life on this earth. This is our hope,

our common will, and the expression of our love and trust in Jesus, our Christ.

Communion Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Using 'debts' & 'debtors')

Let us pray,

Holy God, we honor you in whom our lives are founded, and in whom our futures lie. We remember and honor also the human searching over the centuries that have perceived your presence in life, and your meaning for all of life. You are kind and gracious to us, O God, blessing us with good things. All the ends of the earth praise you; the nations are glad and sing for joy because you guide us with wisdom and judge us with equity.

Christ is your Word made flesh, your love revealed in the world. He is our abiding peace—not as the world gives, but a peace beyond compare. In Christ's Name, we have received the Holy Spirit, our Advocate. Give us a vision of your holy city, the new Jerusalem, where the light of your glory dispels the night forever.

Heal the hurting nations and feed the world with good fruit. And, above all, we honor Jesus, our Christ, whose life and death reveal to us, as his resurrection, the full nature of your being and the potential nature of ours. And now, in the spirit of Christ's teaching, we pray as he taught us to live,

"Our Father, ... Amen.

Communion of the People and the Words of Institution – Pastor Peter

(In-person worshippers are invited to come forward using the center aisle for bread and wine/juice, returning to their seats by the side aisles. An elder will place the bread in your cupped hands for you to partake of the bread; then, please move to receive the "red" wine or "clear" grape juice; and partake of the cup, disposing of the cup in the container. Live-streaming worshippers may have the elements prepared nearby and partake along with those in the sanctuary. All who are baptized are invited to share in Christ's Table.)

Communion Music

Union Seminary, hymn tune (Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether)

Craig Phillips

Post-Communion Prayer (In unison.)

Christ has died and lives for all.

May we not depart from his presence.

These are God's gifts; take Jesus our Christ into your hearts. This bread: the body of Christ. This wine: the blood of Christ. Let us pray,

Eternal, loving God, we thank you for this simple common meal that brings the spirit and reality of Christ into our hearts, and brings us closer to you. May our lives be inspired by your love, and may your love touch others through us. Amen.

Communion Blessing

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD

Renewed and refreshed by our experience with God and God's congregation, we go into the world to share God's love.

* Hymn 371 "Lift High the Cross" Crucifer

* Charge and Benediction (Adapted from Psalm 30, Acts 9, John 21) – Pastor Peter

Take off your sackcloth and put on your dancing clothes!

God is our dance instructor and partner.

The Holy Spirit is playing the melody of forgiveness and love, and the living Christ is ready to turn your sadness, your grief, and your fear into a new life of rejoicing.

So let us dance out this door!

Go and spread the story of transformation to all the hurt, grieving, and despairing people you meet. **God will go with us, always!**

Chimes – (You may sit in silent, reflective prayer as the worship leaders recess.)

* Postlude Maccabeus, hymn tune (Thine Is the Glory)

Colin Mawby

Announcements

Guests: You Are Welcome Here

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME THOSE WHO ARE VISITING TODAY. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission, and programs; we are happy to share our ministry with you. We'd like to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to a person nearby and be sure to join us downstairs in Carmel Hall for refreshments and conversation after worship! We hope your worship experience is meaningful and you will gather with us again soon. Should you wish for Hearing Devices and/or Large Print Bibles & Hymnals, they are available from an usher. Sign our guest book at the sanctuary entrance (or share your email/contact information in the offering plate for a weekly email of future worship and activities). We invite you to speak with the Pastor if you are interested in membership. A Virtual Fellowship Time is also possible on Zoom. And, restrooms are located down the long hallway just past the Church Office in the Education Building. Welcome!

THIS MORNING, THE FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY glorify God and point to God's good creation all around us.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION TO BE HELD TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 1 – The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, May 1, 2022, in the Sanctuary, following worship for the purpose of electing Church Officers.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP EACH SUNDAY IN CARMEL HALL – **Coffee Hour Fellowship** is weekly downstairs in Carmel Hall following Sunday worship. Join us for coffee/tea, baked goods, and good conversation with fellow members and friends. Why not volunteer to host a future **Coffee Fellowship**?!

EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR THOSE FLEEING VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE – Support the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s **emergency relief for those fleeing violence in Ukraine**. The Russian invasion of Ukraine produced the largest refugee crisis in Europe this century. Ukrainians face urgent needs for medical care and basic needs like food, water, and fuel. **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** has a specially designated account to supplement the **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** offering to enable a significant response to humanitarian efforts to assist international refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Please drop a check marked **"Ukraine22"** on the offering plate or make your direct donation via <u>www.pcusa.org/ukraine22</u>.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL "CHRIST IS CALLING" PROJECT FOR UKRAINE – Session approved the "Christ Is Calling" local hands-on-mission opportunity for which Carmel may participate. We have found a new source to continue our Carmel donation project for Ukraine. The Ukrainian Sisters of St. Basil at Manor College in Abington Township expect to be collecting and shipping necessary supplies for Ukraine for some time to come. They desire many of the same items of our original list, plus a few highlighted additions. You can leave your donations in the designated bins in Carmel's lobby for delivery to the Sisters, whom coordinator Mary Ellen Thomas contacted. Contact coordinators Mary Ellen and Janet Simon for more information.

Items in high demand are:

Ukraine Humanitarian Aid Collection:

- **Army Essentials**: CAT tourniquet, gauze, sleeping bags, blankets, dark thermals, gloves, socks, knee pads, elbow pads, power banks, flashlights, SD cards, yoga mats, and water bottles.
- **Baby Essentials**: Baby wipes, dry baby food, baby food in pouches, baby medicine, baby bottles, and diapers.
- Medical Supplies: Crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, OTC meds, first aid kits, bandages
- **Dry Food**: Protein bars, granola bars, canned chicken or fish, pasta, Ramen noodles, fruit rolls.
- **Personal Hygiene Items:** Soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.

Thanks for answering Christ's Call to assist Ukrainians during this very difficult time when needs are great.

CARMEL SEEKS PART-TIME BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR – The Carmel Personnel Committee seeks applicants for the part-time **Business Administrator** position, who will be responsible for administrating the church finances. Accounting or bookkeeping skills are necessary for this 6-hour per week position. Applicants cannot be Carmel members. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume by email to: carmelpcjobs@presbycarmel.org. The Church Office will provide a position description – call 215-887-1074.

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering Nursery Care and Children's Worship (third grade and below) during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. They are being led by two of our committed and dedicated volunteers, Marleen Heintz for Nursery Care and Melissa MacFarland for Children's Worship. At this time, we request that if you desire nursery care for your child during Sunday worship, please call the Church Office by Friday noon, so that the nursery is staffed. Children's Worship will meet in Carmel Hall for larger spacing and does not require reserving ahead. Children from Grades K-3 leave the Sanctuary after the Children's Message. We welcome our young families, either in person or in virtual worship. Any questions may be addressed to Janet Simon, Christian Education Committee chair; Marleen, or Melissa.

CARMEL YOUTH GROUPS OASIS AND REFUGE & CONFIRMATION CLASS NOTES: Refuge will meet on designated Wednesday nights, 6:30-7:30 pm, in person, in Carmel Hall and welcomes all in grades 3-8. Safety protocols will be followed with dinner and a rotating activity each week: service or craft project, Bible lesson, gym or game room activity, and monthly special activities. **Oasis** meets on designated Sundays, at 7:00 pm in the Loft and welcomes all in grades 9-12. Join in the Fellowship and, as always, friends are welcome. The **Confirmation Group** meets Sundays at 9:00 am in the Chapel.

WONDER "WHAT'S GOING ON?" CHECK OUT CARMEL'S WEBSITE! Explore the wealth of information at www.presbycarmel.org. Easily find links for the current Livestream worship, past services, the daily lectionary, or to send a prayer request or make a financial donation—and not to miss the latest on the Carmel Calendar. Clicking on the upper circular church photo will always bring you back to the Home Page.

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN WORSHIP; CELEBRATE COMMUNION ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! Live Streaming Worship continues on YouTube, via Zoom on the phone, and Zoom for virtual fellowship

following worship for those unable to attend in-person worship due to health comfort levels or travel situations.

SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH WORSHIP – EACH SUNDAY WE HAVE several spots you can assist: liturgist, ushers, greeters, and host for coffee hour. We are not all we can be without you sharing your gifts as a volunteer! Speak with a pastor or sign up online here:

https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

WELCOME TO SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LIVE STREAMING ON SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJlj|DvsRw

Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409

and Meeting ID: 842 851 1409

"Virtual Fellowship Time" may be accessed on Zoom only after the service ends.

WORSHIPING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 – Masking in the building is now optional in accordance with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's revised guidelines. Those whose health is compromised should consult their healthcare provider as to whether to continue wearing a mask. Visitors and members are welcome to wear a mask if they wish. Masking requirements will automatically fluctuate accordingly as Montgomery County moves between the various CDC levels of low, medium, and high, with masks required when at the high level. Members will be notified as levels change and updated signs will be placed on the church's front door.

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Participants Serving the Church in Worship

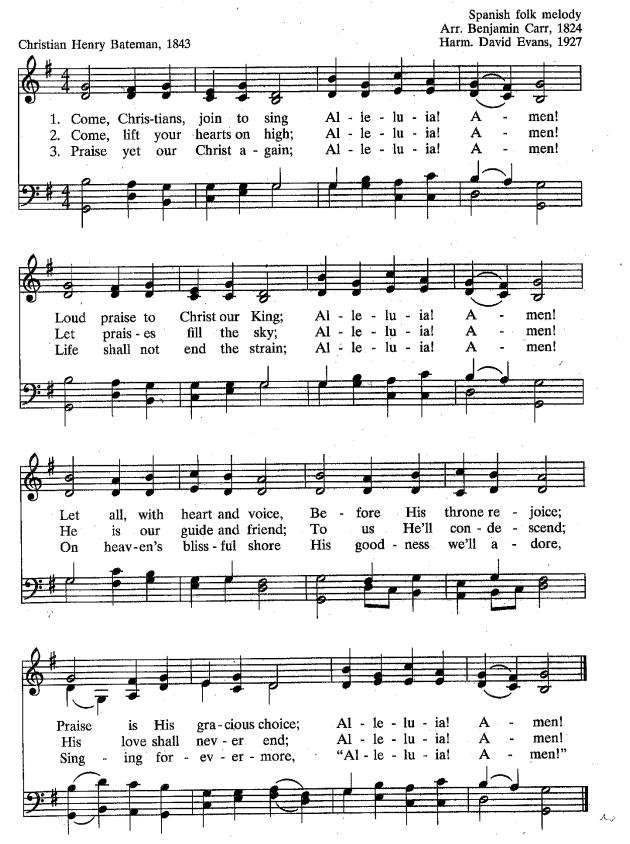
Peter Sulyok, Transitional Senior Pastor
James D. Eby, Pastor Emeritus
Abigail Vander Hart Palmisano, Organist and Director of Music
Denise Abraham, Liturgist
Ken Schuyler and Janet Simon, Elders Assisting with Communion
Sanctuary Choir
Barbara Podrost and Janet Simon, Ushers/Greeters
Linda MacFarland and Kristin Waldner, Shepherds
Walt Newman, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Member
Gary Moll, Jay Raulinaitis, and Kerri Strike-Stahller, Live-Streaming Operators
Barbara Podrost, Coffee Fellowship in Carmel Hall (11:00 am)

Carmel Presbyterian Church

100 Edge Hill Road Glenside, PA 19038 215-887-1074 www.presbycarmel.org

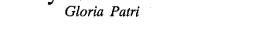
150 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID 6.6.6.6 D



Glory to the Father

567





*May be sung as a canon.

o=58-63

525

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD 7.7.7.4 D with refrain



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592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH LM Genevan Psalter, 1551 Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709 bless-ings flow; Praise *Him, all Praise God, from whom all Praise *Him a - bove, ye host; here be - low; Fa - ther, Son, Ghost. A - men. Praise and Ho - ly

* Or "God."

581

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



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Lift High the Cross



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