THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

8:00 - "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus" by David Anderson 10:30 - The Bell Choir plays "The Strife is O'er" arr. by McChesney

HYMN 483 - we sing, standing

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

AN EASTER DIALOG

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things.

The Lord is my strength and my song; **He has become my salvation.**

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; **His** love endures forever.

This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING, followed by PRAYER The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON *(bulletin back page)* This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 4 Pulpit side reads odd numbered verses Font side reads even numbered verses

SECOND LESSON (bulletin back page) This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

page 156 - ALLELUIA VERSE *we sing, standing*

GOSPEL (bulletin back page) Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord! After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 815 - we sing, seated

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED - *hymnal, last page all standing*

OFFERTORY

During the gathering, the Bell Choir plays (8:00) "The Strife is O'er" (10:30) "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus"

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *all may kneel* Response: **Hear our prayer!**

LORD'S PRAYER

COLLECT

BENEDICTION

HYMN 464 - we sing, standing

POSTLUDE - "O Hear the Joyful Tidings" Chorale, arr. Schreiner

NEWS AND NOTES

This Week Here

Wed - 1:30 PM - Bible Study - 7:30 PM - Parish Choir Sat - 9:00 AM - Outdoor Cleanup - 9:00 AM - Quilts of Valor

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School this year will be July 8 to 12 and our theme is *Scuba: Diving Into Friendship With God.* Registration materials for kids and sign-up sheets for volunteers will be coming soon. Watch your email, the Sunday bulletin, and the Heavenly Herald for more information.

Mandolin & Guitar Duo Concert! Join us on Saturday, April 27th, at 2:00 PM for a concert featuring Handler & Levesque. The husband and wife duo blend swing, Brazilian, Classical, Latin, 60's & 70's, jazz, gypsy and folk music influences to create their unique, expressive arrangements. No admission charge; light refreshments following the performance. Ladies Night Out--the ladies of the church are invited to a night out dinner on April 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board where you will also find this year's menu.

Little Cherubs Christian Preschool is now taking registration for the 2024-2025 school year. If you, or someone you know, have a child who is preschool eligible, please call the church or preschool office for more information

This morning we welcome Rev. Robert Beinke, New England District President, who is leading our worship services this morning.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

The Preaching of Repentance and Forgiveness of Sins Makes Us Pure The risen Lord Jesus taught His disciples "that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead" and "that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations" (Luke 24:46–47). Therefore, St. Peter preaches repentance and forgiveness to the people of Jerusalem. As he proclaims that Jesus fulfilled all that "God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets" (Acts 3:18), he also convicts the people of their sin, because they "delivered over and denied" this Lord Jesus and "killed the Author of life." Yet God "glorified his servant Jesus" and raised Him from the dead (Acts 3:13–15). St. Peter calls the people to repent, so that their "sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19–20). Through this forgiveness of sins and by faith in this forgiveness, the Father shows His love for us in order that "we should be called children of God; and so we are" (1 John 3:1). Thus, we hope in Him and are made pure even "as he is pure," because "he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin" (1 John 3:3, 5).