

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!

Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

**Give praise for God's mighty deeds!**

**Give praise for God's resurrecting power!**

Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

**Praise God with the harp and the cello!**

Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

**Praise God with flutes and guitars!**

Praise God with cymbals and drums!

**Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

\*Opening Hymn

Go Tell it on the Mountain (Easter Version!)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Redeeming God, with you there is always more life, more hope, more joy.**

**Forgive us for doubting to see your work in the still things, the busy things, the darkest moment and the everyday, under-noticed plod of life.**

**Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don't claim the happiness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.**

**Restore to us the joy of our salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*Passing the Peace

\*Song of Praise #243

Be Not Afraid (2x)

Time with God's Children

Miss Fannie's Hat

Anthem

Forest Park Boomwhacker Choir

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 118:14-29

Second Reading

John 20:19-31

Sermon

Hats On!

\*Hymn

When We are Tempted

(FORESTGREEN - "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

\*Affirmation of Faith:

We believe with the Bible that

***"there is a time to weep and a time to laugh."***

We believe with Chrysostom that

***"laughter has been implanted in our souls."***

We believe with Luther that

***"You have as much laughter as you have faith."***

We believe with Calvin that

***"we are nowhere forbidden to laugh."***

We believe with Francis De Sales that

***"humor is a foundation for reconciliation."***

We believe with Soren Kierkegaard that

***"Humor is intrinsic to Christianity."***

We believe with Dietrich Bonhoeffer that

***"Ultimate seriousness is not without a dose of humor."***

We believe with Madeleine L'Engle that

***"A good laugh heals a lot of hurts."***

We believe with E. E. Cummings that

***"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter."***

We believe with Charles Schultz that

***"Humor is proof that everything is going to be alright with God nevertheless."***

Invitation to the Offering:

Prayer of Dedication:

**God of joy and laughter, we thank you for the lasting happiness you give, which we cannot earn or buy. In gratitude we bring these gifts, our offerings and your tithes, with the prayer that you will use them to spread the joyful gospel of your great love for all people. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

\*Hymn

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

(Tune JUNGST - How Great Our Joy")

\*Charge

\*Sung Benediction #80

The Trees of the Field

Postlude

\*Rise as you are able, in body or spirit