

Contemporary Order of Worship
 May 7, 2023
 Worship Series: Rise Up
 Message: Kingdom of God

Gathering	<i>Forever</i>	Praise Band
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Mission Moment		Suzanne Ackley
Centering Moment		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
*Centering Song	<i>Christ is Risen</i>	Praise Band
*Prayer		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Pastor: Let us pray.		
People: We need Your Kingdom to come, O God, in all its fullness, in all its glory. May Your Kingdom be revealed in our lives, turning our sickness and sin, our brokenness and fear into friendship and compassion, wholeness and joy. May Your Kingdom come to our world, turning our division, judgement, and self-interest into fellowship, care, compassion and service. May Your Kingdom come to us now. Make us faithful heralds of its message and tireless practitioners of its ways; through Jesus Christ. AMEN.		
Children's Moment		Linda Biscardo
Prayers of People		Sarah Chambers
Offering Song	<i>Revelation Song</i>	Praise Band
Prayer of Thanksgiving		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Scripture Reading	Mark 1:14-15; Luke 17:20-21; Acts 1:6-11	Allie Adams
Message	<i>Kingdom of God</i>	Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Invitation to Communion		Sarah Chambers

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, You call us to repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand.
 And so, we confess that we have acted like rulers over our lives.
 We have forgotten that You are king over all creation, and we are not.
 While we are heirs of Your Kingdom,
 we have found our identity in earthly things like money, prestige, and power.
 We have turned away from being part of Your Kingdom work
 to satisfy our own agendas.
 We have broken Your heart, and we are sorry.
 Forgive us.
 We turn to You now.
 May Your Kingdom come in our hearts and lives.
 Use us to help build Your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. AMEN.

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: Sisters and brothers,
 God is at work in us and with us
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Alleluia! AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Christ is Risen!
People: Alleluia, Christ is risen, indeed!
 Pastor: May the Spirit of our living God be with you.
People: And also with you

Pastor: Rise Up, you people of God! Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to our God.
 Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right,
 And a good and joyful thing,
 always and everywhere give thanks to you,
 Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth..
 From the abyss, You brought form into being.
 From the form You brought forth the earth.
 From the earth You brought forth life.
 Then You breathed into us the breath of life.
People: And so, we give You thanks.

Pastor: Throughout history, time and again You have raised up Your people.

From slavery, You raised them up.
 From occupation and oppression, You raised them up.
 From disbelief and suffering You raised them up.
 You have raised up prophets to teach Your people what it means
 to live in the Kingdom of God.
 As we gather at this banquet, the banquet of heaven,
 we give You thanks for these Your mighty acts throughout history.
 And we join in that great chorus repeated throughout the ages.

**People: 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.**

Pastor: Holy are You,
 and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ.
 He was fully filled with the Spirit, your Spirit.
 He raised up the hungry by feeding them.
 He raised up the outcast by eating with them.
 He raised up the sick by healing them
 And for this, He was raised up on a cross.
 But death was not his end,
 because You, almighty God, raised him up on the third day.
 And in His resurrection, raised the church into being.
 And so now we rise to profess the mystery of faith
People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pastor: But, before Jesus' resurrection, He gathered with His disciples for a meal.
 He took bread, raised it up,
 gave thanks to You, and passed it to His disciples
 saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me"

Likewise, after the meal, He took a cup, raised it up, gave thanks to You, and passed it to His
 disciples saying, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the covenant poured out for you
 and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

People: And so, we have gathered, and we remember.

Pastor: Pour out Your holy spirit on the community gathered here.
 Raise our belief.
 Raise us to salvation.

Raise us from suffering.
 Raise us to the Kingdom of God.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
 Raise them up to be for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ.
 May we, as we partake of them, be made One with You,
 with Christians in all times and places, and with all of creation.
 Through You, and with You, and
 by the Power of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor are Yours, holy God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer
**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 trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 But deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom,
 and the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.**

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

**Prayer Following Communion
 Eternal God,
 we give You thanks for this holy mystery
 in which You have given Yourself to us.
 Grant that we may go into the world
 in the strength of Your Spirit,
 to give ourselves to others
 in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior. AMEN.**

*Closing Song	<i>Blessed Be Your Name</i>	Praise Band
*Benediction		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Postlude	<i>Christ is Risen (Reprise)</i>	Praise Band