

Kingston Springs United Methodist Church
Order of Worship
May 2, 2021

Greeting Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Prelude Let All Things Now Living (*The Ash Grove*)
Stephan Dudash, David Wood

Call to Worship Rheatta Petty

Come and sit with me; we shall study the Word.

Together we shall read and understand.

Come and kneel with me; we shall break the bread.

Together we shall eat and be satisfied.

Come and walk with me; we shall part the waters.

Together we shall risk, and, behold, we shall be changed.

Hymn We Know That Christ Is Raised – UMH 610
Rheatta Petty

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
And our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

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We share by water in His saving death.
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing: Alleluia!

Prayers of the People

Children's Sermon Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Scripture Reading Acts 8:26-40 Rheatta Petty

Sermon Bearing Witness: Breaking Barriers
Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Offering

Anthem I Want Jesus to Walk with Me – UMH 521
Rheatta Petty

I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me.
When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Confession

There come those moments when we stand exposed, our failings, our hurtful words, our harmful ways open for all to see. But God takes these moments, and these sins, redeeming them through compassion and love, making us new people, children of the Living God. Let us come, in these moments, with our prayers to the One who waits to forgive us and make us whole. Please join me as we confess together:

You invite us to sit and chat with someone who wants to know more about you, but we are busy running errands. You give us a simple command—to love—and we complicate it with rules, worries, and doubts. Forgive us for constructing barriers that prevent people from experiencing belonging in our community of faith. Forgive us for the ways that we have failed to see others as your beloved children made in your image. May your Spirit continue to expand our hearts, minds, and arms to embrace all as you do.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God abides in you! God is breathing, living, forgiving, restoring you in this moment, and in the days to come. This is the good news for us and for all!

As God is in us, so we can live, work, and care for others, so that the love, hope and joy of Christ's resurrection might touch all people. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Communion, *cont'd.*

It is right and a good thing always and everywhere...
...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of death:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. **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

Commission and Blessing

Postlude

Simple Gifts

Stephan Dudash, David Wood