

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022, 9:00 am

You are invited to speak the words in **bold**. + Please stand as you are able.

## Musicians

Chris Garofalo, Director of Music Ministry, Organ & Piano • Mary Elliott, Cantor

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### Prelude

*Prayer of Serenity*

by James Michael Stevens

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### Welcome

with Pastor Jeremiah

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### + Call to Worship

with Pastor Jeremiah

Jesus reminded the disciples

**Love one another as I have loved you.**

Jesus taught and witnessed to God's love.

**Love one another as I have loved you.**

Jesus encourages us to love each other  
with tenderness, compassion, and hope.

**Let us love one another as Christ loved us. Amen.**

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### + Opening Hymn

*God of Great and God of Small*

Worship & Song #3033

#### Verse 1

God of great and God of small,  
God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong,  
God to whom all things belong,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

#### Verse 2

God of land and sky and sea,  
God of life and destiny,  
God of never-ending power,  
yet beside me every hour,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

#### Verse 3

God of silence, God of sound,  
God by whom the lost are found,  
God of day and darkest night,  
God whose love turns wrong to right,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

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## Verse 4

God of heaven and God of earth,  
God of death and God of birth,  
God of now and days before,  
God who reigns for evermore,  
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

## Opening Prayer

with Ollie Taylor

*Gracious and Loving God, we are grateful that you have called us together this day, drawing us from darkness to the glory of your light. May our spirits rejoice at the good news you have for us today. Open our hearts to your healing love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.*

## Passing the Peace

with Ollie Taylor

The peace of Christ be with you!

*And also with you!*

## Song

*Jesus Loves Me*

United Methodist Hymnal #191

## Verse 1

Jesus loves me! This I know,

for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! [x3]  
The Bible tells me so.

## Time for Young Disciples

with Beth Hagemeyer

## Scripture

with Peter Overstreet

The Inclusive Bible © 2007 by Priests for Equality

*Acts 11:1-18*

<sup>1</sup> The apostles and the community in Judea heard that Gentiles, too, had accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> As a result, when Peter went up to Jerusalem, some of the Jewish believers took issue with him. <sup>3</sup> "So you have been visiting the Gentiles and eating with them, have you?" they said. <sup>4</sup> Peter then explained the whole affair to them step by step from the beginning: <sup>5</sup> "One day when I was in the town of Joppa, I fell into a trance while at prayer and had a vision of something like a big sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners. This sheet came quite close to me. <sup>6</sup> I watched it intently and saw in it all sorts of animals and wild beasts—everything possible that could walk, crawl or fly. <sup>7</sup> Then I heard

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a voice that said to me, 'Now, Peter, make your sacrifice and eat.' <sup>8</sup> I replied, 'I can't, my God. Nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth!' <sup>9</sup> And a second time the voice spoke from heaven, 'Don't call profane what God has made clean.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times, then the sheet and what was in it was drawn up to heaven again. <sup>11</sup> "Just at that moment, three couriers stopped outside the house where we were staying; they had been sent from Caesarea to fetch me, <sup>12</sup> and the Spirit told me to have no hesitation about returning with them. These six believers came with me as well, and we entered Cornelius' house. <sup>13</sup> He told us he had seen an angel standing in the house who had said, 'Send messengers to Joppa and bring back Simon, known as Peter; <sup>14</sup> he has a message for you that will save you and your entire household.' <sup>15</sup> "I had hardly begun to speak when the Holy Spirit came down on them in the same way she came on us in the beginning, <sup>16</sup> and I remembered what Christ had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> I realized then that God was giving them the same gift that had been given to us when we came to believe in our Savior Jesus Christ. And who am I to stand in God's way?" <sup>18</sup> This account satisfied them, and they

gave glory to God, saying, "God has granted the repentance that leads to life—even to Gentiles!"

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## Response to Scripture

The Word of God for the people of God.

***Thanks be to God!***

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## Hymn of Preparation

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

United Methodist Hymnal #548

### Verse 1

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north;  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

### Verse 4

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

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## Sermon Preparation

May the words of my mouth,  
***and the meditation of our hearts***

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*be acceptable to your Spirit,  
our Rock and our Redeemer.*

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## Sermon

*Who Am I to Stand in God's Way?*

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## Hymn of Response

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

United Methodist Hymnal #560

Words © 1975 Hope Publishing Co; Music © 1977 Hope Publishing Co

### Verse 1

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe  
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

### Verse 2

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

### Verse 3

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved  
in living situations to do the truth in love;

to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart  
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

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## Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

with Pastor Jeremiah

*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin  
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.*

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## Mission Minute

Aurora Pride Parade

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## Offering Invitation

with Ollie Taylor

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## Offertory

*Grace*

Traditional Celtic Melody arranged by Mark Hayes

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## + Doxology

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*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

United Methodist Hymnal #94

Adaptation ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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## Prayer of Dedication

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## Announcements

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## + Hymn of Sending Forth

*They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

The Faith We Sing #2223

### Verse 1

We are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord;

and we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored.

### Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

### Verse 2

We will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
we will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news  
that God is in our land.

### Refrain

### Verse 3

We will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
we will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity  
and save human pride.

### Refrain

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## **Benediction**

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## **Postlude**

*Organ Sonata in G minor*

by Baldassare Galuppi

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