



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 3rd, 2026

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

We are called to be a welcoming and supportive community whose inspiring worship of God encourages everyone to deepen their faith and to respond to the needs of the world with the compassion of Christ.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

Chiming of the Hour

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

Welcome and Announcements

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

Organ Voluntary

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness

Johannes Brahms

WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD

*Call to Worship

Leader: In the midst of troubled hearts and uncertain days,

People: We gather in the presence of the One who gives peace.

Leader: Christ prepares a place for us and calls us by name.

People: In God's house there is room for all.

Leader: When the world wounds and fear rises around us,

People: We lift our eyes and behold the glory of God.

Leader: At this table, grace is offered and mercy is poured out.

People: Here we remember love is stronger than death.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who welcomes, heals, and abides with us.

All: Let us worship with grateful hearts.

*Processional Hymn

Christ Is Alive!

Hymn #246

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Merciful God, we confess that our hearts are often troubled, and we do not always know what to do with our fear. We cling to certainty when You invite us into trust. We build narrow roads when Jesus shows us the wide way of love. We look away from suffering when it asks too much of us. We answer hurt with hurt, suspicion with distance, and anger with silence or more anger. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes, as You opened Stephen's, to see Christ present even in painful places. Open our hands, as You open this table, to receive grace and to share it freely. Make us brave in mercy, generous in welcome, and faithful in love.

***Silent Confessions**

***Assurance of God's Grace**

***Response to Confession**

We Are Forgiven

Hymn #447

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

A Conversation with Young Disciples

All children are invited to come forward for the children's message.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Acts 7:55-60; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 126

Leader: The Spirit speaking still.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Jesu, Grant Me This I Pray

CH Kitson

*Jesu, grant me this, I pray, ever in thy heart to stay.
Let me evermore abide hidden in Thy wounded side.
If the evil one prepare, or the world, a tempting snare,
I am safe when I abide in Thy heart and wounded side.
If the flesh, more dangerous still, tempt my soul to deeds of ill,
naught I fear when I abide in Thy heart and wounded side.
Death will come one day to me; Jesu, cast me not from Thee.
Dying let me still abide in Thy heart and wounded side.*

Scripture Reading

John 14:1-14; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 108

Leader: The Spirit speaking still.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Making Room at the Table

Rev'd. Gary Noonan

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Anthem

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

Johannes Brahms

*How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
For my soul, it longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord.
My soul and body crieth out, yea, for the living God.*

Blest are they that dwell within Thy house. They praise Thy name evermore.

Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All are invited to celebrate Communion.

The bread is gluten-free to ensure that all are welcome to the table.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Leader: This is the table of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Come if your faith is strong, or if you are full of fear.

People: We come in joy or in sorrow, hope or despair.

Leader: Whatever you carry, this meal is for you, and Jesus himself invites you.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy and welcoming God, you formed us in your image...

all the company of heaven, we join their unending hymn, singing:

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit...

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Hymns	Come to the Table of Grace	Hymn #507
	Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen	Hymn #536

Prayer Of Commitment (Unison)

Generous and gracious God, we thank You for meeting us at this table with bread for the journey and mercy for our souls. Having been fed by Your love, send us now into the world to live what we have received, to make room for the stranger, welcome the overlooked, stand with the vulnerable, and to carry Your peace into troubled places. May this meal strengthen us to follow the way of Christ with courage and compassion, until all are gathered at Your table of justice, joy, and abundant grace. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

*Closing Hymn	There's a Wideness <u>In</u> God's Mercy	Hymn #435
*Benediction		
Choral Response	Sevenfold Amen	John Stainer
Organ Voluntary	Final (Symphony I)	Louis Vierne

Worship Leaders:

Rev'd. Gary Noonan, *Senior Pastor*; Rev. Rachel Finken, *Associate Pastor*

Music Ministry:

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*; Kevin Chunko, *Music Associate*; Chancel Choir

Acolyte: Alice Butler **Cross Bearer:** Wyatt Butler

Livestream Host: Gary Hepp **Usher Captain:** Art McDonnell

Ushers: Hanna Evens, Ron Evens, Georgia Hepp, Lindsay Marting, Wayne Ullery

Communion Servers: Lisa Bauer, Ann Bronson, Julie Grant, Peter Hurd, Kim Selle, Sue Smith