



Faith
UNITED CHURCH of Christ

Rev. Ted Brelsford | Pastor
Rev. Gary Burdick | Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Ruth Foley | Music Director

Sunday, May 5, 2024
10:15 a.m. Worship Service

6th Sunday of Easter

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Time of Silent Preparation

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist Rev. Kayti Dean

Leader: We have come to worship God, who loved us
before we were born,

People: Who knows us even better than we know ourselves.

Leader: Whose presence never leaves us, and whose love for
us never ceases.

People: This is our God!

All: Let's worship together!

INVOCATION

*HYMN *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Gray #60

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly God, you have made us for love and prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. But too often we fail to love you, and we are miserable. Every day we fall short of loving our neighbor as ourselves. At times we cannot even love ourselves. Save us, gracious God of love and life, from all our weaknesses and shortcomings. Forgive us our many failings. And strengthen us for the life you lay before us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 27:1-10

Do not boast about tomorrow,
for you do not know what a day may bring.

Let someone else praise you, and not your own mouth;
an outsider, and not your own lips.
Stone is heavy and sand a burden,
but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.
Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming,
but who can stand before jealousy?
Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.
Wounds from a friend can be trusted,
but an enemy multiplies kisses.
One who is full loathes honey from the comb,
but to the hungry even what is bitter tastes sweet.
Like a bird that flees its nest
is anyone who flees from home.
Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart,
and the pleasantness of a friend
springs from their heartfelt advice.
Do not forsake your friend or a friend of your family,
and do not go to your relative's house when disaster strikes you—
better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away.

ANTIPHONAL READING Psalm 98:1-8

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;
**his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.**
The Lord has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
**He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;**
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
**Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;**
make music to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,
**with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the Lord, the King.**
Let the sea resound, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.
**Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy.**

SCRIPTURE READING John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

*HYMN *O How He Loves You and Me* Gray #479 x2

SERMON “Friends of God”

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD’S PRAYER

*HYMN *Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine* Gray #514, vs.1,3

*GIFTS and OFFERINGS *There is an offering plate on the small table near doors as you exit the sanctuary. May God bless the missions of our church and the needs of the world through the gifts of our resources. Amen.*

*DOXOLOGY



*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING *Go Now in Peace*

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with us each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide us in all we do.*

*POSTLUDE

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

For peace in this country and the world, for our military, for all who are at war, and those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. The Brock Family. Also for those whose needs we do not know. Bill Bates, Herb Berlin, Vickie Bieger, Sue Cook, Gary Cook, Stephen Dearth, Barb Fink, Louise Forney, Brennan Grove, Jim Henry, Scot Kish, Eleanor Kraft, Bruce Lounsbury, Carol Mueller, Claudia Renzi, Chuck & Sheila Recktenwalt, Loretta Rishel, Tom & Marilyn Rucker, Joe Ryan, Fred Shear, Linda Smerka, Sydney Stisser, Janet Taber, Bob Tills, and Joyce Whittemore.

For Those in the Military: Zachary Braun, Justin Buczek, Teegan Partridge, Cadan Skinner, Jamie-Lynn Smerka, Joe Solak, Mark Solak, Aaron Wellman, and Mark Williams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Christian Education Committee** will meet today immediately after worship in the Senior High room.
- **The May-June newsletter** is available to pick up in the narthex if you do not receive it by email or want a hard copy.
- There will be a memorial service for Duane Brock here on Saturday, May 18 at 12:00 noon.
- The last day of Sunday school for this school season is May 19. There will be VBS for the children on June 2 and 9, 10:15 – 11:15.
- The income from the Buddy Holly/Elvis fundraiser event was \$1492. Thanks again to Gail Berger and all who helped with that event.

OPERATING BUDGET INCOME & EXPENSES

Average weekly operating expenses: \$ 2465

Offering collection for **April 28, 2024**: \$ 1392

Current: \$ 1308 Benevolent: \$ 84

Attendance on Sunday, April 28, 2024: 60

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