



Welcome to Christ Church!

Christ Church United Methodist is a Welcoming Community of Faith, Hope and Love Serving our Neighbors and the World as the Hands of Christ.

Sunday, May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

11:00am
† - Those who are able, please stand

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

WORSHIP NOTES

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. You have chosen to be a part of the Body of Christ that has been worshipping together for over 220 years. Welcome! We are glad you are here.

The 11:00am service is broadcast on 1240AM and 95.7FM. The livestream of our service can be found on the Christ Church Facebook page, which is also accessible from our church website: www.ccumwv.org.

All songbooks are located between the seats. Song texts will also be projected on the screens.

Congregational responses are in **bold italic**.

Please see an usher if you need a hearing assist.

The Church is now in the 50 Great Days of Easter, the 50 days that follow Easter Sunday that take us to the day of Pentecost on May 19. The liturgical colors for the season are white and gold.

The 'crown of thorns' on the cross behind the communion table was originally covered with dark colored ribbons that represented prayer concerns shared during our Ash Wednesday service. Now that we are in the Easter season, the dark colored ribbons have been changed to white and gold as a celebration of giving our cares and concerns to the risen Christ.

VOLUNTARY The Chancel Ringers
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is".....arr. Cathy Moglebust

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Jay Parkins, Lead Pastor
Please take a moment to let us know you are here today by completing the Connection Card and placing it in the offering plate.

CHORAL INTROIT Chancel Choir
"God of Our Life".....SANDON
God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee; in all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy had we see. With each new day, when morning lifts the veil, we own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail. Amen.
Text is public domain

† CALL TO WORSHIP
Chapters end,
New ones begin -
More school or new work or something completely different.
Endings carry the seeds of new possibility.
Endings are never the last word in God's eyes.
There is grace surprising us,
Resurrections freeing us,
Hope reviving us,
Life calling us,
Music lifting us.
Praise God for endings and beginnings.

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN OF PRAISE #374 UM Hymnal
"Standing on the Promises".....PROMISES

† GATHERING PRAYER
Loving God,
you create life from the earth on which we dwell
and breathe into it new life and meaning.
Graciously you empower us with knowledge and skills
to aid one another as we live out our life on this earth.
Bless our gathering this morning
as we recall your grace and kindness to these young lives
and celebrate the endings and beginnings
of the opportunities you provide.

(continued next page)

WORSHIP NOTES

Hymn #374 was first published in *Songs of Perfect Love, 1886*. It was written and composed by R. Kelso Carter. Carter's highly eclectic personal and professional life included teaching, sheep-raising, publishing, writing, editing, composing gospel hymns, and practicing medicine. He was also an ordained Methodist minister active in the camp meeting movement. The tune takes on a military air because it was composed while Carter was a student at the Pennsylvania Military Academy where he later became a teacher.

The Gloria Patri is a short hymn of praise and is Trinitarian in nature praising God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The tune name, LAUDA ANIMA, translated means, "praise my soul." The tune was composed in 1869 by Sir John Goss, an active church musician who was a leading figure in the reformation of English cathedral music in the 19th c.

The Preparation for Prayer was written and composed in 1982 by the late, Jacques Berthier, the music leader for the Taize religious community in Taize, France. The text is based on Psalm 137. CONFITEMINI DOMINO means "praise the Lord for He is good."

† GATHERING PRAYER (continued)

***Empower us all to live lives worthy of the callings you offer,
that we may strengthen one another and your creation
as we walk together with you through this life.
In Christ Jesus' name we pray. Amen.***

† THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us share in signs of reconciliation and peace.

† GLORIA PATRI

LAUDA ANIMA

***Glory be to God in heaven, songs of joy and peace we bring,
Thankful hearts and voices raising, to creation's Lord we sing:
With the Father and the Spirit, glory be to Christ our King.***

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MOMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN

SHARING OF OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER #2157

The Faith We Sing

"Come and Fill Our Hearts".....CONFITEMINI DOMINO

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

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SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF OUR GRADUATES

LITURGY OF CELEBRATION

God of truth and knowledge,
by your wisdom we are taught the way and the truth.
Bless our graduates as they now finish this course of study.
***We thank you for those who taught and worked beside them,
and all who supported them along the way.***
Walk with the graduates as they leave and move forward in life.
Take away their anxiety and confusion of purpose.
***Strengthen their many talents and skills,
instill in them a confidence in the future you plan,
where energies may be gathered up
and used for the good of all people.***
For the graduates, this truly is a day of new beginnings,
a time to remember and move on,
and a time to believe what love is bringing.
***May they always know that Christ is alive and goes before us,
to show and share what love can do.***
***This is a day of new beginnings,
our God is making all things new. Amen.***

WORSHIP NOTES

The text to the anthem was originally written as a prayer by the medieval German-Dutch Catholic church canon, Father Thomas à Kempis, who was a prolific copier and writer. K. Lee Scott, a resident of Birmingham, Alabama, composed the original tune for this text. The composition was written in 1989 for the 22nd Annual North Alabama United Methodist Music Week for Youth and Children at Camp Sumatango, Alabama.

The Doxology is a hymn of praise to God that is Trinitarian in nature praising God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The text is an altered version of the original text from 1674 and was written in 1974 by Rev. Dr. Gilbert Vieira, United Methodist minister in the San Francisco Bay area of California. The tune is a German Catholic tune dating from 1623. The harmonization was created in 1906 by the great British composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams.

ANTHEM OF BLESSING

Chancel Choir

*"Write Your Blessed Name".....K. Lee Scott
Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity, that no adversity shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, and a faithful Guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. O Jesus, my only Savior! Amen.*

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - *Joshua Becomes Moses' Successor* Deuteronomy 31: 7-8

Bible, pg. 186

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

† GOSPEL LESSON - *The Commissioning of the Disciples* Matthew 28: 16-20

Bible, pg. 34

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON - *"We Are Not Alone"*

Ashley Wood
Director of Children & Youth Ministries

THE OFFERTORY

"Interlude No. 2".....Malcolm Archer

† DOXOLOGY #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***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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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.***

WORSHIP NOTES

Hymn #383 was written by one of today's best known and most prolific hymn writers, Brian Wren. It was written in 1978 for a New Year's Day service held at the Holy Family Church in Blackbird Leys, Oxford, England. It is a hymn of change, of hope, and new beginnings. The music was composed by United Methodist minister, Rev. Dr. Carlton Young.

SHARING IN THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

† HYMN OF RESPONSE #383 (Verses 1-4) UM Hymnal
"This is a Day of New Beginnings".....BEGINNINGS

† BENEDICTION

† CHORAL RESPONSE Chancel Choir
"God of Our Coming Years".....SANDON
God, of our coming years, through paths unknown, we follow thee; when we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; our refuge be. Be thou for us in life our daily bread, our heart's true home when all our years have sped. Amen.
Text is public domain

† VOLUNTARY
"Postludium in C Major".....Albert Schröder