

**CENTRAL**  
United Church of Christ  
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT



**May 3, 2020**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS****CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Good Shepherd calls his sheep by name.  
Listen, for our shepherd is calling.

**HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down;  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;  
All Thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation;  
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit,  
Into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in Thee inherit;  
Let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its Beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Graciously return and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;  
Pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise. Amen.

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Loving Shepherd, gather us to yourself, that we might dwell secure in your ways. Deliver us from evil, that we might build a community where all may dwell secure. Mark our fellowship with study, prayer, communion, and the sharing of our possessions with those in need. Amen.

## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

### **REFLECTION MUSIC “Make My Life a Song” - Words: Mary Rarden - Music: Mark Burrows**

You sang to me when first I breathed  
the holy breath of life;  
You sang to me as faith took hold  
and grew within my soul;  
You sang to me at ev'ry turn  
and in each new beginning;  
I hear Your voice in the stillness of my heart.  
Make my life a song;  
Creator of the music of the spheres;  
Make my life a song, O Lord of sound and silence,  
of joy and tears, a song of praise, a hymn of faith,  
an anthem of Your love. Make my life a song.  
I give to You my hopes and dreams  
the venture of my life;  
I give to You the service that I offer in Your Name.  
I live for You my future to unfold as You will choose;  
I pray that I may walk beside You all my days.  
Make my life a song;  
Creator of the music of the spheres.  
Make my life a song, O Lord of sound and silence;  
of joy and tears. A song of praise, a hymn of faith,  
an anthem of Your love. Make my life a song

## **HEAR GOD'S WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Acts 2:42-47  
John 10:1-10

### **CHOIR RESPONSE**

### **SERMON**

“Come Home”

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

### **THE APOSTLE'S CREED** (Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried:  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit;  
One holy and universal Christian Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the Life everlasting.  
Amen.

## RESPOND IN FAITH

### **HYMN "We Praise Thee, O God"**

We praise Thee, O God,  
our Redeemer, Creator;  
In grateful devotion  
our tribute we bring;  
We lay it before Thee;  
we kneel and adore Thee;  
We bless Thy holy name:  
glad praises we sing.

We worship Thee, God of our  
fathers, we bless Thee;  
Through life's storm and tempest  
our Guide hast Thou been;  
When perils o'ertake us,  
escape Thou wilt make us,  
And with Thy help, O Lord,  
life's battles we win.

With voices united  
our praises we offer,  
And gladly our anthems  
of worship we raise;  
Thy strong arm will guide us,  
our God is beside us,

To Thee, our great Redeemer,  
forever be praise! Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **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 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.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

- Willan

### **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name that these tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS**

### **SHARING COMMUNION**

### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

*"Deck Thyself My Soul With Gladness"*

- Handel

### **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

**GO FORTH IN LOVE**

**HYMN "Just As I Am, Thine Own To Be"**

Just as I am, Thine own to be,  
Friend of the young who lovest me,  
To consecrate myself to Thee,  
O Jesus Christ, I come.

In the glad morning of my day,  
My life to give, my vows to pay,  
With no reserve, and no delay,  
With all my heart, I come.

I would live ever in the light,  
I would work ever for the right,  
I would serve Thee with all my might,  
Therefore, to Thee I come.

Just as I am, young, strong and free,  
To be the best that I can be  
For truth and righteousness and Thee,  
Lord of my life, I come. Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

**WE HOLD EACH OTHER IN SPIRIT**

Blest be the tie that binds,  
Our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds,  
Is like to that above.

**POSTLUDE**

*"Hornpipe"*

*- Handel*

***Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.***

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Please keep each other in prayer, particularly those for whom God's healing touch is of special comfort.

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