



Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2025 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Melody in A-Flat" Alfred Hollins

() Indicates that all are invited to stand*

***CALL TO WORSHIP (1)**

We are here to worship a remarkable God!

The love of God welcomes us, the grace of Christ awaits us, the joy of the Spirit enfolds us.

Come as the joyful, come as the eager, come as the thankful,

come as the recipients of amazing grace.

The love of God overflows our hearts, the grace of Christ liberates our spirits,

The joy of the Spirit sings in our minds.

Come, let us worship our remarkable God!

***GATHERING HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign" #300 *New Century Hymnal* vv.1-4**

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;

God's realm shall stretch from shore to shore till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Through Christ shall endless prayer be made, borne by the Spirit's ceaseless aid;

Like sweet perfume new hymns shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on God's love with sweetest song,

And infant voices shall proclaim their earliest prayers in Jesus' name.

Blessings abound where'er Christ reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains.

The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blessed.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (2)**

God, we believe you have called us to unity, but often we have isolated ourselves from others,
God, forgive us for the times we have turned our backs on those who are different.

God, we believe you have called us to live together as one body,

God, forgive us for the times we have created division.

God, we believe you ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name,

God, forgive us for the times we have failed to love others as we do ourselves.

God and Creator of all humankind, your son Jesus Christ prayed that your church might be one even as you our God are one.

May you renew our minds and rekindle your love in our hearts so we might find the Oneness that you intend for us. (*silent confession*)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God gives us justice, choosing to let go of punishment. God fills us with peace; choosing to release anger. God's steadfast love rests upon us.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Jesus Shall Reign” v.5**

Let every creature rise and bring tributes of praise for all to sing;

Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN: TEACHER APPRECIATION

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING John 17:20-26 Pew Bible p. 880

A Word of God that is still speaking,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” #393 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life is like to that above.**

**Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

**We share each other’s woes, each other’s burdens bear,
And often for each other flows a sympathizing tear.**

**When we are called to part it gives us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.**

RESPONDING

We respond to God’s Word through our prayers and our gifts.

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

OFFERTORY “Amazing Grace” Hal Hopson and Charles Callahan
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE (tune: “Lasst Uns Erfreuen” *The Hymnal* #15)

**Praise God, the Giver and the Gift,
Hearts, minds and voices now uplift, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the breath of glad surprise, Freeing, uplifting, opening eyes.
Three-In-Oneness, Love Communing, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God!

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, and to worship you in every place where your glory abides. You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. You made us in your image, and called us to be your people, but we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign. Still you loved and sought us. In Christ your grace defeated death and opened the way to eternal life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voice with the faithful of every time and place:

Holy, holy, holy God, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

You are holy, O God, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your son and our risen Savior. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that we may be united with the living Christ and with all his people. Accept this our sacrifice of praise as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen:

Dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS *(All are welcome to share in the Sacrament of Communion! Elements will be served by ushers, and you are invited to hold the elements until we commune together. Wine trays contain white grape juice and red wine. A tray of gluten-free wafers is available from usher in center aisle.)*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *(unison)*

We give thanks, O God, because in your own free gift of love you have reached out to us. You have refreshed us at your table, and called us to a life shared in memory and hope. Send us forth with courage and joy in the name of Jesus Christ, that we, too, may become bread and peace for one another and the world. Amen.

SENDING

With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.

*COMMISSIONING HYMN: "We are One in the Spirit" #300 *Glory to God Hymnal*



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



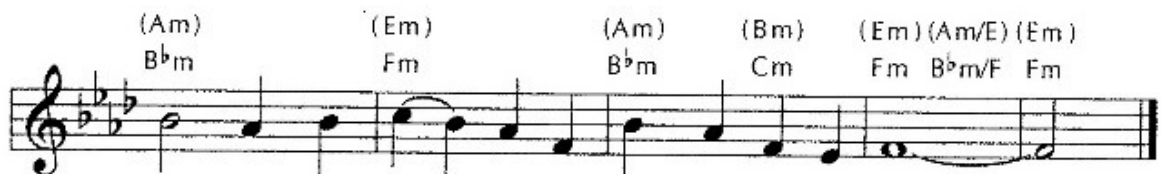
we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Fanfare in D"

Jaak Nikolaas Lemmens

Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from www.ministrymatters.com/worship
2. Adapted from www.re-worship.blogspot.com

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2025 Graduates

Jack Butchart (grandson of Randy and Kathy Hall)
University of Missouri, Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism

Meredith Butchart (granddaughter Randy and Kathy Hall)
St. Louis Community College, Associate's Degree in general studies
will attend Maryville University in the fall

Jessie Crawford (granddaughter of Penny Steffen)
Kansas City Institute of Art, Bachelor of Fine Arts

Annalise McCann
New York University, Tisch School of Drama, Bachelor of Fine Arts

William Mennerick
Bard College, Bachelor's Degree in Biology

Jivanji Sumariwalla (grandson of Diane Muehlenbeck)
Meramec Community College
Will attend University of Missouri at Rolla in the fall

Kavir Sumariwalla (grandchild of Diane Muehlenbeck)
Oakville High School
Will attend Webster University in the fall

Charlotte Ryan
Pre-K graduation

Davis Weas (great-nephew of Alice and David Galt)
Priory School
Will attend DePauw University in the fall

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*Thanks for your
contribution to the
ministries of Hope UCC!*