



# Union Presbyterian Church

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021 | 10 AM

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

**Bold text** is read or sung by the congregation.

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, then returned to this country in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century with the Billy Graham crusades.

Confession is our opportunity to be honest with God, so that our relationship may be restored and our hearts reconciled.

This morning's confessional liturgy was written by Thom Shuman, a retired PC-USA pastor, who serves in the Presbytery of Cincinnati.

## Gather

### Prelude

#### \*Call to Worship

From comfortable pews, from tricycle seats, from easy chairs in front of TVs:

**God gathers us in to give us the words to proclaim the gospel.**

At kitchen sinks, at laptops and blackboards, at nursing stations:

**Christ calls us to share in serving all creation.**

In communities gathered to pray, in families grilling in the backyard:

**The Holy Spirit fills us with God's joy.**

#### \*Hymn 634

*To God be the Glory*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!**

**So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,**

**who yielded his life an atonement for sin,**

**and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

#### *Chorus*

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,**

**and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,**

**and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;**

**but purer and higher and greater will be**

**our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Chorus]**

### Prayer of Praise

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

**Most High God, you call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice. We are hesitant to witness to your power from on high because we are often uncertain of your presence in our lives. Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, so that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

During this Eastertide season, we sing a Gloria to give thanks for our salvation through the Risen Lord.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient practices of worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Choosing to set aside judgment, 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.

**Forgiven, redeemed, restored—we will tell everyone, through the lives we lead, what God has done for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Gloria 583

*Glory to God*

GLORIA (Taize)

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

## Sharing Christ's Peace

Because God has given us the peace of forgiveness, let us also be at peace with one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# Engage

## Prayer for Illumination

## Scripture Reading

John 17:6-19

<sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

<sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

<sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Message

*In the World, Not of the World*

Rev. Lisa Stenner

Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette wrote this hymn text set to a familiar tune to remind us that our discipleship most assuredly means praying for our world. It also means working for justice and peace to bring God's kingdom closer on earth.

Thank you to John Stevens for leading us!

A Lutheran pastor wrote this hymn text in 1985 in response to a bishop's assertion, "Our mission is to touch the lives of others with Christ's love."

Our 2021 benediction is adapted from one written by Michelle Thomas-Bush for d365.org.

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people

**\*Song** *If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers* O WALY, WALY  
**If we just talk of thoughts and prayers and don't live out a faith that dares,  
& don't take on the ways of death, our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.**  
  
**If we just dream of what could be and do not build community,  
And do not seek to change our ways, our dreams of change are false displays.**  
  
**If we just sing of doing good and don't walk through our neighborhood  
To learn its hope, to ease its pain, our talk of good is simply vain.**  
  
**God, may our prayers & dreams & songs lead to a faith that takes on wrongs -  
That works for peace and justice, too. Then will our prayers bring joy to you.**

## Respond

### Offering of Our Time, Talent and Treasure

*Financial offerings support the Body of Christ through the life and mission of Union Presbyterian Church. You may give online [www.unionpresby.org](http://www.unionpresby.org) automated giving through your bank, and through snail mail.*

### Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer

**\*Hymn #733 (v.1,2)** *We All Are One in Mission* MERLE'S TUNE  
**We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission compels us from above  
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.**  
  
**We all are called for service to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,  
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**

### \*Charge and Benediction

**Go out from this time and persevere in the faith. Love with intention.  
Be Christ's church. Practice radical hospitality. Celebrate others.  
May the grace of God fill your days so that you cannot help  
but respond to all of life with audacious joy!**

### \*Postlude

## Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist  
Heather Dern, Liturgist

## **Birthdays**

May 16 Brian Fry  
Miranda Kavanaugh  
May 21 Andrea Vanzant

## **Anniversaries**

May 22 Jerry & Diane Michael

## **Prayers**

Linda Janes, Lynn Jasensky, Jacque Sherwood,  
Joe VonLehman, Brewer Ball family, Jeff Hansel,  
Holly Hillman, Brian Fry, Nick & Sue Bosse,  
Judy Evans, Jim Detwiler, Sue McEntyre



### **Brunch for Babies via Zoom TODAY 11am**

After worship, we will gather via zoom to celebrate with Brian & Laura as they prepare for their third son, with Owen as he prepares to be a two-time big brother, with Emmett as he prepares to be a big brother, and with Sharon Fedders as she prepares for her third grandson. The zoom link is available on the UPC Facebook page and in this week's newsletter.

**Next Sunday is Pentecost Sunday!** Pentecost is considered the birthday of the whole Christian church because that is when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and those gathered in Jerusalem. Red is the liturgical color of Pentecost symbolizing the Holy Spirit. Worshipers are invited to wear RED (or orange or yellow - flame colors) this Pentecost Sunday to acknowledge the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives.



**Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.** We want to celebrate with ALL the graduates – high school, college, advanced degrees, whatever. Please make sure the church office ([unionpresby@gmail.com](mailto:unionpresby@gmail.com)) has the 411 on your graduate (school, degree, future plans), so that we can celebrate with them. We would also like pictures of our high school graduates – at least one current picture and one baby picture.

### **SESSION**

**Moderator: Reverend Lisa Stenner**

#### **Class of 2021**

Kurt Lintelman 919-830-1751  
Paul Seidman 508-951-6848

#### **Class of 2022**

Kim Fry 678-641-4060  
John Seibert 760-4712

#### **Class of 2023**

Robert Brown 669-6008  
Jessica Wood – 462-8995

### **DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2021**

Dustie Kemp  
Logan Kemp  
Cathy Kowalski

#### **Class of 2022**

Beverly Johnson  
Holly VonLehman

#### **Class of 2023**

Amanda Herdman  
Peggy Schadler  
Bob Sherwood

### **Union Presbyterian Church**

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