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April 28, 2024

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter

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**GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE**

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**Boldface = All speak**

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

**PRELUDE**..... "People Need the Lord" *Greg Nelson, Arr. by Mark*

**WELCOME**

**CHORAL INTROIT** ..... "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"  
*(CCLI Song #217452. Carl P. Daw Jr., Peter Warwick Cutts © Words: 1982 Hope Publishing Company;  
Music: 1969 Hope Publishing Company)*

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,  
**for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**  
We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,  
**opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**  
Come, let us worship God!*

❖ **HYMN** ..... "For the Beauty of The Earth" ..... **#14**  
*(CCLI Song #43200. Conrad Kocher | Follitt Sandford Pierpoint © Words & Music: Public Domain)*

❖ **CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER**

**Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. (a time for silent confession) Merciful God, forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.**

❖ **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

❖ **AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

*The peace of Christ be with you!*  
**And also with you!**

***The children may go back to Sunday School at this time.***

❖ **GLORIA PATRI** .....Henry W. Greatorex (*Public Domain*)..... **#581**

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## HEARING THE WORD

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### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.**

**1<sup>st</sup> SCRIPTURE READING** ..... Acts 8:26-40, pg. 1562  
*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.*

**CHORAL ANTHEM**..... "What a Fellowship"  
*Words by Elisha A. Hoffman, tune by Anthony J. Showalter, choral setting by David M. Cherwien*

**2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE READING** ..... John 15:1-8, pg. 1537  
*Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.*

**MESSAGE** .....The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

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## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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❖ **HYMN** ..... "I Come with Joy" ..... **#515**  
*(CCLI Song #2802284. Brian Arthur Wren © 1968, 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company)*

❖ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)  
**We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*p. 35 in the hymnal*)

### OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**DOXOLOGY** ..... Genevan Psalter (*Public Domain*)..... **#606**

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## GOING FORTH TO SERVE

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### OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & SERVE

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** .....Patricia Lind, PADS Interim Housing Center

❖**HYMN** .....“Be Thou My Vision”..... **#450**

*(CCLI Song #3608030. Eleanor Henrietta Hull | Jack Schrader | Mary Elizabeth Byrne © Words: Public Domain. Music: 1989 Hope Publishing Company)*

❖**SENDING FORTH**

**POSTLUDE**.....“The Light of the World is Jesus” *Philip P. Bliss, Arr. by Mark Hayes*

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**Pastor:** The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

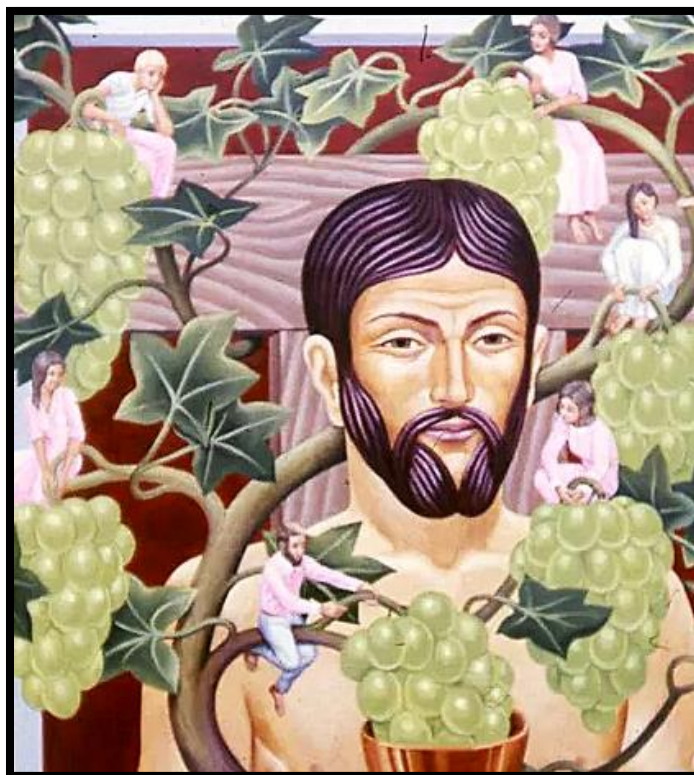
**Lector:** Sue Wexler

**Greeter/Usher:** Larry Evans

**Worship Pianist:** Amy Dickman

**Offering Counters:** Candy Mastro & Darly Doyle

*In gratitude for Tara W. Bulger and the Presbyterian Outlook for inspiring portions of today's worship service.*



*Christ the Vine by Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.*