

Grace Presbyterian Church

May 7, 2023 5th Sunday of Eastertide 9:30 am

VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation, we genuinely welcome people of all ages, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, beliefs, and those who are cognitively and or physically challenged. Our vision is that each of us is a minister seeking to know Christ, grow in discipleship, and embody God's love for the world.



“Love like Jesus”

Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

PRELUDE

Vince DiMura

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord,
who has shown us the wonders of unfailing love;
and who, for the sake of God's name,
leads us and guides us.

**In you, O Lord, we put our trust.
You are our God, and our lives are in your hands.**

Lord, let the light of your face shine on us
as we celebrate together in your presence. Amen.

*Hymn #33 "Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show"

Call to Confession

At his last meal with his disciples –Jesus gave us a new commandment: "...love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Let us humbly confess our failings...

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

**We confess that so often our discipleship has been weak,
when we have failed to serve as Jesus served;
forgive us.**

When we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us; forgive us.

When we have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus with our lips and then denied him by our actions; forgive us.

**Merciful God, empower us by your Spirit to be steady and true to you in every time of trial;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

Words of Assurance *(based on John 12:47; 13:1)*

Jesus said: "I came not to judge the world, but to save the world" and "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end"

The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

— written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on the Liturgies Online website.

Hymn #654 "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" 2x

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

Holy and gracious God,
may your Holy Spirit give us
a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened,
we may know the hope to which Christ has called us,

the riches of his glorious inheritance among us,
and the greatness of his power for those who believe.
Amen.

Based on Eph. 1:17-19

Reading of Psalm 148

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of John 13:1-17

SERMON

Rev. Deborah Paton

*Hymn #727 "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

Musical Meditation

Vince DiMura

*Hymn #607 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God,
here are our gifts of time;
here are our gifts of talents;
here are our gifts of money;
building stones for Your Kingdom,
awaiting shaping and placing**

within Your loving purpose. Amen.

~ written by Rev Dr Derek Browning, posted on the Church of Scotland's Starters for Sunday

(Thank you to all those whose contributions and offerings sustain the church. You can give online by visiting the church website or arranging for recurring donations with your online banking).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/in thanksgiving, **Hear our prayer.**

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of 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 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.**

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

We Are Sent

*Hymn #761 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

*Charge and Benediction

Christ has given us a new commandment:
that we love one another, as Christ has loved us.
By this, everyone will know that we are Christ's disciples,
if we share that love with the world.
And through this love, all things will be made new.
Go now, and do as Christ commands. Amen.

~ from Making All Things New: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday of Easter,
written by the Rev. Mary Nelson Abbott.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

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