

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

10:30 a.m.

OUR LORD'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There's a Place for You Here



GATHERING TOGETHER

Reflection for Worship Today

How do we give God glory? This week we explore this answer: "We Bear Fruit". Jesus comforts us with the reminder that, as our vine, he is always connected to us, sustaining and nurturing us as we grow in love, as we reach toward perfect love of God and neighbor, and as we trust that we can indeed rest in the abiding love of God.

Prelude "Angel Eyes"
"Still"

*arr. Dan Coates
from W&S 3134*

Greeting

One: Good morning, Church! I see you! **ALL: I am here!**

Graceful Engagement

*Call to Worship

One: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

ALL: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

One: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

ALL: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.

One: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

ALL: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.

One: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

cont.

ALL: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another.

*Opening Hymn “There’s a Spirit in the Air” vs. 1, 2, 5, 6 UMH 192

*Unison Prayer

God of love, plant us in the soil of Your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of Your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in You and live in Your love. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children’s Time

One: And, Jesus said... **ALL: Let the children come!**

Scripture Reading “I am the true vine” John 15:1-8 CEB

Response

One: The Word of God for ALL of us - God’s people.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Sermon “We Bear Fruit”

Response Chorus “Lord, Be Glorified” *all verses* FWS 2150

RESPONDING TOGETHER

Sharing Updates, Joys, and Concerns
(*please text prayers to 414-378-4012*)

Centering Song for Prayer “I Need Thee Every Hour” vs. 3, R UMH 397

Pastoral Prayer for the Cares of the People

The Lord’s Prayer ALL Together UMH 895

*Invitation to Giving Action

We commit our time, talent, treasure, willingness to serve and gift of witness out into the world as we bring our offerings.

*Eastertide Doxology TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, 88.44.88 (UMH 94)

Praise Jesus Christ, who rose from death!

Praise to the Source of life and breath!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to the Spirit, holy dove,

Giver of life, of peace, of love,

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*Blessing Prayer

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts today, we reflect on the wisdom in the words from John's gospel. In this imagery, we recognize our role as branches, connected to You, the source of our strength and vitality. Help us stay rooted in Your love, producing fruit that brings glory to Your name. May these gifts signify our commitment to abide in Your teachings and work joyfully in response to Your love. In the name of Jesus, we pray, let it be so.

*Responsive Sending Forth

One: Branches of the Vine, go from this place blessed by Love to work in love with your family, your friends, and your neighbors.

ALL: Strangers become friends and God is glorified as we bear the fruit of the life-giving Vine; as we cultivate abundant life wherever we go!

*Final Blessing

*Closing Hymn "To God Be the Glory" vs. 1, 3

UMH 98

*Postlude "In Schubert's Day"

by Richard Krentzlin

Notes:

Lectionary readings: Psalm 22:25-31, Acts 8:26-40, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

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Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...

Tech: **Joe Whyms, Dave Smith, Izzy Veit, Wendi Haubert**
Worship leaders: Amy Veit, Sophia Veit, Debbie Huyck,
Pat Mehring, Chuck Garrigues, Tony Suminski
Ken Miller, **Mary Schulz**, Wendi Haubert, Sue
Schulkers

Light bearer: Kathy Depies
Musicians: Sue Broker, **Sue
Schulkers**, Dave Smith (midi)
Coffee host: Don Mains

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org
Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org
Pastor: Kelly Fowler/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/

*Visit us on our website at www.ourlordsumc.org

Worship resource: **Ministry Matters**, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Doxology from "Praising God: The Trinity in Christian Worship", by Ruth C. Duck and Patricia Wilson-Kastner

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