

April 28, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter 10:30 AM

**Those who are able, please stand*
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We hope the service will be a blessing to you. This is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. Today our message is to Abide in Christ’s by sharing His love with others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Free Lunch April 29, 2024 11:30 - 12:30 w/North Main UMC
- Bible Study - Session 4 1:00 in Parlor
- Communion Sunday May 5, 2024
- Mother’s Day May 12, 2024
- Food Pantry May 20, 2024 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

The Flowers on the Alter are given in Memory of Marina Smith given by Penna Smith

MUSICAL PRELUDE: “The Voice of Jesus” Pianist Mavis Baldwin

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (In Unison)

Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. The health of the plant and the fruit it bears depends upon the roots that grow in the soil, the water it receives, the sunlight given to its leaves. If we are to be healthy vines that bear good fruit, our roots must be firmly planted in the love and teachings of Christ. If we abide in Christ, Christ’s words will abide in us. Love, mercy, compassion, patience, and forgiveness are all the fruits we will bear in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GATHERING SONG “For the Beauty of the Earth” UMH 92

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (In Unison)

For all the blessings of this life, we give thanks to You, Heavenly Father, Creator of all. Like the sunshine, the rain and the fertile soil, we are grateful for families, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers, who nurture us, that the love of God may grow within each of us. That Your love, Your Word, like a seed, may grow to produce in us, good fruit. May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong. Amen

Time with God’s Children:

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS (Prayer request forms are available at the back of the sanctuary)

Pastoral Prayer:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE “Surely the Presence of the Lord” UMH 328

GIVING OF OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” TFWS 2158

DOXOLOGY “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

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. Amen.

SONG OF COMMITMENT "Go Make of All Disciples" UMH 571

Psalter Reading: Psalm 24 UMH 755-756

Affirmation of Faith: (Stand) The Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version UMH 881

GLORIA PATRI (We use this ancient response to praise God for the Bible) UMH 70

SCRIPTURE 1 John 4: 7-21 and John 15: 1-8

SHARING THE STORY How Does Your Garden Grow? CLS, Sally Kwak

SENDING SONG "In the Garden" UMH 314

THE SENDING FORTH As we grow strong as the branches from the vine of Jesus, may we nourish and support the fruit of Him, which is love. In John 14:27, It is spoken by Jesus Christ to His disciples, "My peace I leave with you," and it means that He is leaving them with His peace. The peace that Jesus gives is not like the peace the world gives. The scripture is meant to comfort the disciples and encourage them not to be afraid. As we spread the fruit of His love, let us do so unafraid. Remember the words of St. Francis of Assisi in a Prayer For Peace: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, For it is in giving that we receive. Amen

MUSICAL POSTLUDE "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian" Mavis Baldwin
Worship

Readers: James Medbury, Penna Smith, Carol Johnson, CLS

Prayer List: Family of Art Schrum, Family of Andrea Russell...Prayers for her daughter Zoey and Matt Brezovsky...The Korona family. Family of Lillian Chase, The Family of Joann Samrov, Family of Carol Cotton, Janine Dykeman, Ivy Patterson, Linda Sammons, Calae Bonfey, Mary Hayes, Linda Howland, Louise Medbury and her family, Kim Gottschalt, Dave Winnie, Crystal Lee, Beverly Bartlett, Carol Johnson, Kevin Quaresino, Portia Robles, Steve Miles

For a prayer request, please call Carol Johnson at 518-921-9902***



Welcome to Worship

North Main Street United Methodist Church
316 North Main Street
Gloversville, New York 12078-2141

We Gather to Worship We Scatter to Serve

Fifth Sunday After Easter

I give you a
new commandment,
that you **love one another.**
Just as I have loved you,
you also should
love one another.

John 13:34

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