

# Wesley United Methodist Church

*May 2, 2021*



**Gretchen Nelson**, Pastor  
**Sylvia Krisnow**, Secretary

**Jerry Sowers**, Minister of Music  
**Cynthia Campbell**, Accompanist

**Members of Wesley**, Ministers

**The Vision of Wesley United Methodist Church is to serve  
all people with the love of Jesus Christ.**

## Order of Worship – 10:00 A.M. Service

### Gather and Spend Time with God Together

#### Preparing your home for Worship

*Create a space that brings reminders of God's presence. Candles. Colorful flowers. Pictures. Fill your space with reminders of Easter Resurrection. Ask everyone in your home for suggestions. Before the gathering time: play music, turn off devices not used for worship, start to pay attention to your breath as a gift from God. Pray.*

#### Welcome and Orientation

*Centering our attention on God's Holy Presence*

#### Gathering Centering Music

*Let the music fill your hearts and spirits becoming aware of God welcoming you in love.*

#### Call to Worship by Sharing Alleluias

**Leader:** "Alleluia! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns!"  
Revelation 19:6-Alleluia is not just a word, it is a way of living...

**ALL:** How many ways can we share 'alleluia!'?

**Leader:** When the bread is divided,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Leader:** When the table is set,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Leader:** When the hungry are fed,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Leader:** When peace is celebrated,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Leader:** When communities are brought together,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Leader:** When neighbours love each other,

**ALL:** alleluia

**Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia! Christ lives!**

#### Easter Praises "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" UMH 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!  
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia!  
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!  
Reascends his native heaven! Alleluia!

2. There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluia!  
lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!  
Christ hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia!  
take the King of glory in! Alleluia!

3. See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!  
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!  
though returning to his throne, Alleluia!  
still he calls the world his own. Alleluia!

4. See! he lifts his hands above; Alleluia!  
See! he shows the prints of love: Alleluia!  
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!  
blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!

### Glory Sightings

*Witness to God's faithfulness and love in the world. You are invited to share where have you witnessed good news. Raise a hand, write in the Facebook Comments, add into Zoom Chat.*

### Proclamation and Response

*“Day by day, as they spent much time together in temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts...” Acts 2:46*

### Acts of the Apostles

### Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip

away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## Special Music

### Epistle Reading

**1 John 4:5-21**

<sup>5</sup> They are from the world; therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and whoever is not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. <sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

### Gospel Reading

**John 15:1-8**

<sup>15</sup> "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must

remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

**Meditation**

**Abide**

**Pastor Gretchen Nelson**

### **Faith Response**

**One:** Let us give thanks for the remarkable gifts of God’s creating and redeeming love, the loving that casts out all fear. For the love that frees us to ask questions and explore, to frame doubts and investigate new possibilities, to build theories and then cross-examine them.

**Many: We thank you, God of adventurous love.**

**One:** For the love that enables us to marvel at our own existence, to ponder and remember, recognize our own needs and affirm our own knowledge and purpose.

**Many: We thank you, God of determined love.**

**One:** For the love that helps us to communicate with one another, to express trust and respect, share heartaches and visions, to convey love and mercy.

**Many: We thank you, God of reconciling love.**

**One:** For the love that inspires us to warmly encourage those around us, to affirm and build up, comfort and enlighten.

**Many: We thank you, God of nurturing love.**

**One:** For the love that liberates us to celebrate the world around us in poetry and song, to delight in shapes and colours, intricacies and patterns, awesome forces and deep mysteries.

**Many: We thank you God of visionary love.**

**One:** For the love that encourages us to express something of our faith; for creeds and prayers, hymns and readings, discussion groups and sermons.

**Many: We thank you, God of creative love.**

**One:** Above all else we thank you for the love that allows us to admit that we have no words in which to adequately describe

the process of faith in Christ, the awesome worship of our God, and the holy wonder of the Spirit.

**Many: We thank you for that point where our love becomes wordless adoration. Through Christ Jesus, who is the pure glory of your loving. Amen!**

## Music for Prayerful Hearts

### Sharing Christ's Peace

*During this season of Spatial Distancing, practicing Christ's Peace is an witness of God's shalom. Cross your arms or press hands together at your heart, bow to your companion while keep eye contact. Offer this is similar greeting "The Christ in me greets the Christ in you. Abundant peace." Use your social media and phones to send Christ's peace into the world.*

### Break Open Our Hearts With Prayer

*As we share in prayer today you are encouraged to pray aloud your joys and concerns. Complete your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy" and all the people respond "Hear our prayer". (You are invited to write your prayers in the Chat or Comment feed. Also please email them to the church office so the Prayer Team may continue to pray with you during the week).*

### 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.**

## Musical Response

### Thanksgiving and Communion

### Invitation to Christ's Table

### The Great Thanksgiving

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Pastor:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Pastor:** Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Pastor:** Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

**ALL: Amen.**

## Sharing and Receiving the Bread and Cup

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Praise God

#### Hymn of Dedication “Lord, Be Glorified”

FWS 2150

1. In our lives, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.  
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.
2. In our homes, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.  
In our homes, Lord, be glorified today.
3. In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.  
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.
4. In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.  
In your world, be glorified; be glorified today.

#### Blessing and Commission

#### Postlude

#### Fellowship online and outdoors.

*Prayers and liturgies today: Easter Statement of Faith by Roddy Hamilton posted on [Listening.newkilpatrickblog.typepad.com/nk-blogging/mucky-paws](http://Listening.newkilpatrickblog.typepad.com/nk-blogging/mucky-paws).*

*by Bruce Prewer posted on [www.bruceprewer.com](http://www.bruceprewer.com). All music used within CCLI#752546*

#### Remember in our Prayers

**Concerns:** Kelsie and AJ, Amy Stanley, Donna Page, Mason Allen, Matthew Swartz, Kath, Kenny Crocker, Ashley Stanley, Rosemary Parks, Eli Sweeney, Don and Pat Brookman, Ann Wilson, Billie Jean, Vicky Morgan, Jim McKirdy, Ed Boyd, Mike Mee, Patty Bumgarner, Crystal Radford, Tommy, Ron, Carol Beard, Joann Walsh, Grace Burnell, Freta Lamb, Joella, Joseph Gilday, Abby, Amber Stinson, Bill Mee, Zach Perkins, Caleb Coates, Zeb Cope, Ramona Gemeinhart, Pete Stone, Karen Bowers, Janice Crumpton, Jeff Birdsall, Kevin Lykins, Joe Ames, Nina Winfree, Barbara Greene, Ben Stanley, Susan Nichols, Jo and Buddy Carlisle.

**Other Concerns:** All teachers and students returning to the classroom; the Coronavirus; the tragedies occurring in our country and around the world; police officers and first responders; all who are grieving; our seniors; our church and the entire United Methodist Church; recovery from addiction; young adults needing a closer walk with Christ; those awaiting test results; healing for those in pain.

**Nation and World:** Our nation, leaders, military, deployed troops and their families.

**Ecumenical Prayer Cycle:** Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** 05/02 Bill Blocker;

*We at Wesley are glad you are here and invite you to worship with us often. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider Wesley. Pastor Gretchen would be happy to talk with you about it.*



**The flowers are given to the Glory of God by** Ray and Sylvia Krisnow in loving memory of our amazing dog, Boomer.

**Announcements**

**United Methodist Women’s Candle Burning:** On Sunday, May 9th, the United Methodist Women will conduct a “Candle Burning” during the morning worship service. We will burn a candle in honor or to remember family, friends, special events, or special groups. The candle will burn for as many seconds as we have pledged. The money pledged in support of UMW Worldwide undesignated missions. The \$.60 represents the amount of money needed to support the many worldwide mission projects of the UMW for one second. Anyone can support this project by filling out the form found at the usher stand and placing it on the offering plate or in the UMW box in the office. Please return by May 7th. **Please make out checks payable to: Wesley United Methodist Women or UMW.**

CANDLE BURNING REQUEST FORM I WISH TO BURN THE CANDLE FOR \_\_\_\_ SECONDS

TO **HONOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

TO **REMEMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

\$.60 = 1 second; \$3.00 = 5 seconds; \$6.00 = 10 seconds; \$12.00 = 20 sec onds; \$36.00 = 1 minute, etc.

**Counters:**

May 2 – Clyde Gumbert/Stephanie Eitzen  
May 9 and 16 – Mary Saylor/Donna Turley  
May 23 and 30 – Pat Fitzgerald/Helen Cope

**HELP Food Pantry Update:** The Food Pantry is well stocked, but there is still a need for **powdered milk and fruit juices (individual packs or regular plastic containers)**. The donations are delivered monthly. Contact person: Sherry Moore

**Scriptures for May 9:** Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

*As of 2 May 2021*

Sun.	02	10:00 AM <b>Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook</b>
Mon.	03	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b>
Tues.	04	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b>
Wed.	05	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b>
Thurs.	06	5:00 PM <b>Prayer Time on Facebook</b>
Fri.	07	
Sat.	08	
Sun.	09	10:00 AM <b>Sunday Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook</b>

**OFFERING** Received: \$1,025.00/Needed each week: \$4,878.00  
**CHURCH ATTENDANCE** April 25: 29 In-person/20 on Zoom/58 on Facebook

**Church Office:** 757-838-3044

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**Pastor Gretchen Nelson:** Cell Phone 804-896 -6785

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