



We invite you to join us online (www.westmarketchurch.org) or by radio ([WPET 950 AM](#) & [92.7 FM](#)) to participate in worship this Sunday.

Below you will find the bulletin for the

11:00 a.m. service for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, April 28, 2024.

We come as Christ's body to honor God's presence together.

We come to share faith, hope, and love with one another.

We come to proclaim and to hear "God is with us! Thanks be to God!"

~Pastors Otto and Jeremy



April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

11:00 a.m.

Silent Meditation

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before the Lord.*

Psalm 22: 27

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE:

“Christ Is Arisen”

Samuel Scheidt

ENTRANCE

† CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come and sit with me; we shall study the Word.
Together we shall read and understand.
Come and kneel with me; we shall break the bread.
Together we shall eat and be satisfied.
Come and walk with me; we shall part the waters.
Together we shall risk, and, behold, we shall be changed.

From The Abingdon Preaching Annual Series 2

† HYMN OF PRAISE:

No. 579, vs. 1-3 & 5 “Lord God, Your Love Has Called Us Here” CARREY’S (SURREY)

1. Lord God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for love were made; your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonored, disobeyed; we come, with all our heart and mind, your call to hear, your love to find.
2. We come with self-inflicted pains of broken trust and chosen wrong, half-free, half-bound by inner chains, by social forces swept along, by powers and systems close confined, yet seeking hope for humankind.
3. Lord God, in Christ, you call our name, and then receive us as your own; not through some merit, right, or claim, but by your gracious love alone; we strain to glimpse your mercy seat, and find you kneeling at our feet.
5. Lord God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share; give us your Spirit’s liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair, and offer all that faith can do, while love is making all things new.

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† COLLECT:

Yours is the love that birthed the world and makes it grow...
It is the love that grasped the mighty Ethiopian as he sat in his chariot and
drove him with a new faith into the waters of his baptism—
to a new life his old life had never imagined.
Yours is the love, Lord, that changes the world, inside and out. Amen.

From The Abingdon Preaching Annual Series 2

† GLORIA PATRI: No. 70

MEINEKE

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*

world without end. Amen. Amen.

Text: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th century

PROCLAMATION

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN: *Please join us in singing after the Children's Message*

No. 191, v.3 "Jesus Loves Me" JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

Text: Anna B. Warner and David Rutherford McGuire

LESSON FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:26-40 (NRSVue)

Reader: Anthea Love

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.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 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. 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.

The Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON:

"The Good News About Jesus"

The Reverend Dr. Otto Harris

RESPONSE

† **RESPONSIVE HYMN:** No. 422 "Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love"

AZMON

1. **Jesus, thine all-victorious love shed in my heart abroad; then shall my feet no longer rove, rooted and fixed in God.**
2. **O that in me the sacred fire might now begin to glow; burn up the dross of base desire and make the mountains flow!**
3. **O that it now from heaven might fall and all my sins consume! Come, Holy Ghost, for thee I call, Spirit of burning, come!**

4. Refining fire, go through my heart, illuminate my soul; scatter thy life through every part and sanctify the whole.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

THANKSGIVING TO GOD THROUGH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

*For your convenience, you can give to West Market Street UMC by text message.
Text WMC to 73256. Follow prompts to complete your giving.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

“What a Morning”

Robert C. Lau

*My Lord, what a morning when the Son of God arose.
At the dawning of the day an angel rolled the stone away;
all could see where once he lay, when the Son of God arose.
My Lord, what a morning when the Son of God arose.
Angels said, “He is not here,” but Christ the Lord was very near.
Gone was all the grief and fear when the Son of God arose.
I could sing the sweetest song, my praise for Christ I would prolong.
Broken was the power of wrong when the Son of God arose, he arose.
My Lord, what a morning when the Son of God arose. What a morning!*

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† DOXOLOGY: No. 94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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† OFFERING BLESSING

SENDING FORTH

† HYMN OF DEDICATION: No. 98 “To God Be the Glory” TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

REFRAIN: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. **REFRAIN**
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son; but purer and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **REFRAIN**

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875

† BENEDICTION

† BENEDICTION RESPONSE: No. 670, v.4 “Go Forth for God” GENEVA 124

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God’s people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit’s power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

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POSTLUDE: “Acclamations: Christus Vincit” Jean Langlais

*Our Service of Worship is ended.
Let our worship through service begin.*

† Please stand as you are able.

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Flowers for today’s service are given to the Glory of God and
in honor of the United Methodist Church General Conference in Charlotte, NC,
and all the delegates, volunteers, and WMSUMC members attending.