

**Bethany Memorial Church
(Disciples of Christ)
May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Welcome! As we reopen the sanctuary for worship, please ensure the safety of your church family by social distancing, wearing a face mask, and refraining from singing.

**Prelude
Welcome and Announcements**

Vicki NeCastro
Floyd McFadden

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"My Life is in You, Lord"

My life is in you, Lord;
My strength is in you, Lord;
My life is in you, Lord;
My strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord;
In you, it's in you.
(repeat twice)

I will praise you with all of my life;
I will praise you with all of my strength,
With all of my life, with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in you.

My life is in you, Lord;
My strength is in you, Lord;
My life is in you, Lord;
My strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord;
In you, it's in you.
(repeat twice)

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Floyd McFadden

*Our Father/Mother 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.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

JOYS AND CONCERNS PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Sharon Watkins

SCRIPTURE READING

Floyd McFadden

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 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. 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. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 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. 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. 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. We love^[a] because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister^[a] whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters^[a] also.

SPECIAL MUSIC SERMON

Brenda Hart
Rev. Watkins

"Sonnet"

WE PARTAKE AT GOD'S HOLY TABLE

CALL TO OFFERING

Floyd McFadden

DOXOLOGY AND OFFERING PRAYER

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

COMMUNION INVITATION

Holly Hillgardner

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER OF THE ELDER

Holly Hillgardner

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

FELLOWSHIP OF COMMUNION

Please partake of the bread and cup – one in the Spirit.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

CLOSING HYMN #335 vv.1,3,4

"Creating God, Your Fingers Trace"

Creating God, your fingers trace
The bold designs of farthest space;
Let sun and moon and stars and light
And what lies hidden praise your might.

Redeeming God, your arms embrace
All now despised for creed or race;
Let peace, descending like a dove,
Make known on earth your healing love.

In dwelling God, your gospel claims
One family with a billion names;
Let every life be touched by grace
Until we praise you face to face.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Watkins

POSTLUDE

Vicki NeCastro

PRAYER LIST

All those affected by Covid-19 both in our community and beyond:

Madeline Wilson
Mike Cunningham (Sydma's Dad)
Mary Lou Chambers
Laura Chambers Willis
Penny Tittle
RuthAnn Yost
Jackie Andrews
Karol Puskarich
Jean McVicar (Mother-in-Law of Connie McVicar)
Mary Ann Eisenhauer
Ed Rodgers (Vicki NeCastro's father)
Gary and Vonnie Larson
Ashley Pietrangelo, niece of Penny Tittle
Mark and Donna Sutherland, brother and sister-in-law of Pat Sutherland
Lynn Cowell, brother of Shirley Kemp
Nancy Pietrangelo (sister of Penny Tittle)
Jeanne Cobb
David Gnatek (brother-in-law of Holly Hillgardner)
Tammy Ritchea
Ruth Tye, Jeannie Sarg Tye, and Jay Tye
Jack Hoffman
Perry Jones, Jr.
Jeffrey Yost
Caden Knisley
Ellen Sanford
Mary Jane Jackson
Holly, Frank, and Sharley Hillgardner
Donna Norman (Becky Ayers' sister)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study will take place on Monday, May 3, at 7:15 pm via Zoom. The scripture to be studied is:

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Sydma will lead the discussion. If you would like to attend and need the Zoom link, please contact the church office.

Mid-Week Prayer Meeting will take place on Thursdays of each week at 6:30pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend, call the church office so we can make sure you receive a Zoom invitation.

Food Pantry – Please continue to remember the front porch food pantry at the church. Pick up a few extra cans of food items whether it be canned vegetables or fruit, canned meats (spam, tuna, chicken, etc.) or snacks. There has been a consistent demand for food products. Items such as toilet paper, shampoo, soap, etc. are also appreciated.

LOL (Ladies out to Lunch) is back! All ladies of the community are invited to attend LOL on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 12:00 noon** at the Sarah Miller House in Wellsburg. The cost is \$20 plus tax and tip. The menu will consist of grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup, beverages, and dessert. Please RSVP to Felicity at 304-281-2245 by June 1 if you wish to attend.