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May 2, 2021, 10 A.M.
Easter 5B

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

WE ARE GLAD YOU COULD COME

An abstract watercolor painting serves as the background. It features a central, vibrant red area that transitions into shades of orange and yellow towards the top right. Dark, charcoal-like grey and black splatters are scattered throughout, particularly on the left and bottom edges. The overall texture is soft and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and color blending.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

GREETING

Litany for Christian Unity UMH 556

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen in all Christians faith in Christ, the Savior of the world.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Let us ask the Lord to sustain and guide Christians with his gifts along the way to full unity.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Let us ask the Lord for the gift of unity and peace for the world.

Listen to us, O Lord.

GREETING

Litany for Christian Unity UMH 556

Let us pray. We ask you, O Lord, for the gifts of your Spirit.

Listen to us, O Lord.

Enable us to penetrate the depth of the whole truth, and grant that we may share with others the goods you have put at our disposal.

Listen to us, O Lord.

GREETING

Litany for Christian Unity UMH 556

Teach us to overcome divisions. Send us your Spirit to lead to full unity your sons and daughters in full charity, in obedience to your will;

Listen to us, O Lord, and let it be done through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

James F. White, USA, 20th Cent., ALT., Book of Worship 394

Lord of Life, submitting to death, you conquered the grave. By being lifted on a cross you draw all peoples to you. By being raised from the dead you restored to humanity all that we had lost through sin. Throughout these fifty days of Easter we proclaim the marvelous mystery of death and resurrection. For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity. Amen.

Hymn:

Blessed Assurance



Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873
Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873
Tune: ASSURANCE
UMH 369

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Played by Chiara Griffith



+HYMN “*Blessed Assurance*” v.1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my savior all the day long.*



+HYMN “*Blessed Assurance*” v. 2

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my savior all the day long.*



+HYMN “*Blessed Assurance*” v. 3

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my savior all the day long.*



+PASSING OF THE PEACE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**



The Church's One Foundation

UMH 545

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

Tune: AURELIA

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Played by Chiara Griffith

The church's one foundation is
Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is a new creation by water
and the Word.

From heaven he came and
sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he brought
her, and for her life he died.



Elect from every nation, yet o'er
all the earth;
her character of salvation, one
Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.



Though with a scornful wonder
we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by
heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.



Mid toil and tribulation, and
tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of
peace forevermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her
longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.



Yet she on earth hath union with
God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord,
give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 22:25-31

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever! **27** All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 22:25-31

28 For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. **29** To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. **30** Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,^{**31**} and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

26 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.) **27** So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. **29** Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” **30** So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

31 He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. **32** 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.”



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. **36** 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?”



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. **39** 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.



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

40 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.



SERMON

About Whom Does the
Prophet Speak?

Pastor Rachel B. Livingston

OFFERTORY: Seek Ye First

UMH 405

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Played By
Chiara Griffith
Music Director

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DOXOLOGY

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

Music: attr. to Louis Bourgeois

UMH 95, Tune: OLD 100th

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Played by Chiara Griffith

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER



CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD'S SUPPER

**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.**

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

CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD'S SUPPER

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 forever. **Amen.**



Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

UMH 402

Words: Afro-American spiritual

Music: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. And arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

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Played by Chiara Griffith

Lord, I want to be a Christian in
my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in
my heart.

*In my heart,
in my heart,
Lord I want to be a Christian in
my heart.*



Lord, I want to be more loving in
my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in
my heart.

*In my heart,
in my heart,
Lord I want to be more loving in
my heart.*



Lord, I want to be more holy in
my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in
my heart.

*In my heart,
in my heart,
Lord I want to be more holy in my
heart*



Lord, I want to be like Jesus in
my heart,
in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in
my heart.

*In my heart,
in my heart,
Lord I want to be like Jesus in my
heart.*





+BENEDICTION

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**GOODBYE &
GOD BLESS**

SEE YOU NEXT SUNDAY