



Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART

Sunday, May 2, 2021
Easter 5B
10:00 a.m.



Cheltenham United Methodist Church
11111 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623
Rev. Rachel Livingston, Pastor

Worship with us Online via Zoom

Join URL: <https://bit.ly/CUMCSundayServices>

Calling in and listening in on your telephone

Dial +1 (301) 715-8592

Enter meeting ID: 861 6676 4909#

Password: 001873

Via Facebook

www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Easter 5B

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNIVERSARIES AND 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.

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 the we may share with others the goods you have put at our disposal.

Listen to us, O Lord.

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”

UMH 369

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873

Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

Tune: ASSURANCE

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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.

Refrain

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.*

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

Refrain

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.

Refrain

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

+HYMN "The Church's One Foundation"

UMH 545

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

Tune: AURELIA

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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 bought 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 or 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.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 22:25-31

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

SERMON

About Whom Does the Prophet Speak?

Pastor Rachel B. Livingston

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

+OFFERTORY

“Seek Ye First”

UMH 405

+DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*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.*

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:

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.**

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.**

GOING FORTH

+HYMN

“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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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

+RECESSIONAL

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalms 22:25-31 NRSV • ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever! ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. ²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. ²⁹To 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. ³⁰Posterity 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.

Acts 8:26-40 NRSV • ²⁶Then 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now 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.³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.