

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 1, 2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*(Take a moment to center yourself with this prayer or pray your own gathering prayer)*

We come seeking your presence in a world full of uncertainty. We come with our wounds, asking for healing. We come, remembering our baptism and wanting to claim the difference you make in our lives. We come through the shadowy clouds of our unbelief, seeking the brightness of your glory, O God. We want a faith to sustain us through times of trial and testing. Be powerfully present with us, gracious Spirit. Amen.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: A new day has dawned, God’s gift to us . . .

All: **We are a new creation in Christ.**

One: This is the day of forgiveness and reconciliation;

All: **We will be glad and worship God.**

\*OPENING HYMN “The Church’s One Foundation” #442

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

We who have fashioned idols to occupy our time and energy are invited to examine our priorities before God, who expects to be first in our lives. We who have hurt others through our own selfish actions must look at what we have done in light of Christ’s call to treat all our brothers and sisters with love. Let us confess to God in silence.

\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS “Grace Greater Than Our Sin”  
Lt. Blue Songbook #76

Singing: Grace, grace, God’s grace,  
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God’s grace,  
grace that is greater than all our sin.

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus the Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

. . . to Proclaim God’s Word

FIRST READING Acts 16: 16-34 p. 136

SECOND READING Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 p. 259

ANTHEM “Simple Praise” Choir

GOSPEL READING John 17: 20-26 p. 111

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Pastor Sara MacGilvra Branom

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Fairest Lord Jesus” #306

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

\*OFFERING RESPONSE

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” #592

Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We bring our offerings to feed your lambs and tend your sheep, gracious God. May these gifts provide outreach and opportunities for growth within our congregation. Help us to focus on what is important, that we may work together to make a difference in the world. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: **hear our 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 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.

\*COMMUNION HYMN “We Come as Guests Invited” #517

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

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

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

One: . . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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. (Lt. Blue Book #124)**

One: . . . Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.  
**One:** ... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**One:** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All:** Let us keep the feast.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

. . . and to Be Sent in God’s Name

**\*CLOSING HYMN** “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” **#379**

**BENEDICTION**

**RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION** “Go with God”  
**Lt. Blue Songbook #138**

**Singing:** Go with God. Go with God.  
As you leave this place, go with God.  
God will direct your way, God will light ev’ry day.  
As you leave this place, go with God.

**POSTLUDE**

# The Upper Room

“Divine Connection”

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Read John 15: 1-8

*“Jesus said, “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.”*

*---John 15:5 (NIV)*

In this age of the internet, it can be difficult to go about life as usual when connectivity is suddenly lost. All communication seems to come to a standstill. This happened to us when our home internet connection was interrupted. There was a loud pop, and then our Wi-Fi cut off. We couldn’t do any work on our computer or laptop. We had to depend on our limited mobile-phone data to complete our work and connect with others. Later we figured out that the Wi-Fi had been cut off due to a faulty power adapter.

Just like an internet connection, our spiritual connection with God can break down too. Unresolved sin in our lives can build up and make us feel distant from God.

If a strong internet connection is so important to our daily lives, how much more crucial is our spiritual connection with God! Without it, we can do nothing. We are like branches without a vine, a tree without its roots. But we can maintain a close connection with God by reading scripture, acting on our faith, and sharing the love of God with others, especially those who need hope in their lives.

**Prayer:** “Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the connection we have with you through Jesus Christ. Draw us near to you, and help us to rely on you.” Amen.

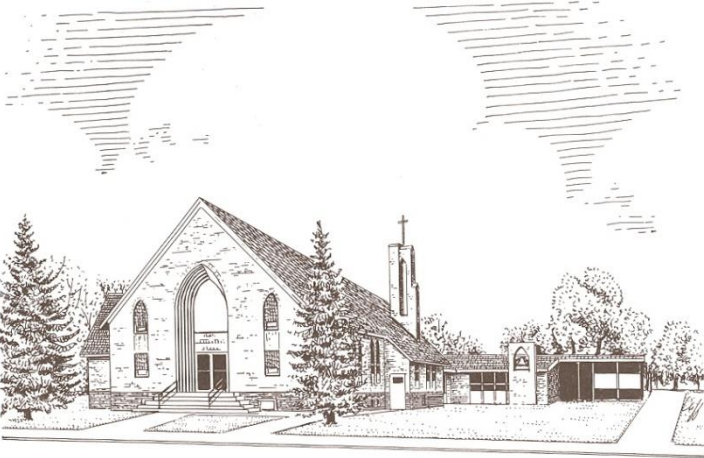
*--Agnes Wee (Singapore)*

**Thought for the Day:**

“When I connect with God, I am encourage and empowered.”

(If you would like to read **The Upper Room** each day, you may pick up a copy in the narthex.)

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