

**Clifton Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)**  
*Loving God ~ Loving One Another ~ Loving the World*



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May 5, 2024  
9:45 Prayer & Care  
10:00 AM Worship

Sixth Sunday of Easter

**WE GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

*Words in **BOLD** indicate the congregation reading together. Words of the worship leader are in PLAIN type. An asterisk \* indicates that the congregation may stand, as able.*

*Songs marked PH are from the Presbyterian Hymnal, which can be found in the pews. Songs marked GtG are from the Glory to God Hymnal, and are printed with permission.*

Gathering Song GtG 243      **Be Not Afraid**  
**Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**  
**Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

## Time of Prayer and Care

### Prelude

#### \*Opening Sentences

One: We come to join with all the earth in praise:

**All: to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,  
who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.**

One: We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

**All: the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills,  
people in every corner of the globe.**

One: On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

**All: we greet you with joy, our living God!**

\*Hymn Presbyterian Hymnal #276      Great Is Thy Faithfulness *vv 1-2*

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)**

#### Call to Confession

There is nothing that can separate us from God's love. Therefore, let's confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and help us transform our lives. Join me in prayer:

#### Prayer of Confession

**All: Tender God, forgive us when we have chosen:**

**to be indifferent instead of loving others,  
to complain instead of giving thanks,  
to be irritable instead of showing patience,  
to be unkind instead of showing kindness,  
to be drawn to things that diminish our loves instead of doing good,  
to be afraid instead of being faithful,  
to be rough instead of being gentle  
and to be greedy and selfish instead of showing self-control.**

**We turn away from these wrong attitudes and ask that you help us to stay connected to Jesus. Please fill us again with your peace. Amen.**

### **Assurance of God's Grace**

One: Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends. Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now. By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

**All: Let us live as God's forgiven children! Alleluia! Amen.**

**Sing Praise Presbyterian Hymnal #123 Sing We to Our God Above v. 4**

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

### **The Peace of Christ**

One: Christ is our peace, the neverending, abiding, enduring peace we now share with each other, for Christ is alive and Lord of all. May the peace of our risen Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Those in the sanctuary are invited to greet those around you.  
Those on zoom are invited to offer greetings in the chat.*

### **Offering our Gifts to God**

*For those who would like to make a physical offering, the offering plates are available in the middle of the sanctuary.*

*Donations can also be made online. [www.cliftonpc.org](http://www.cliftonpc.org)*

One: With gratitude for all God has given us, let us return our offerings to God.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

One: Let us pray.

**All: Generous God, we bring you our offerings today, and ask that you bless them. Bless the money we give that it might be saved, stewarded and spent in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we will undertake this week that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week – 167 until we meet again – that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. Amen.**

## **WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Come and Fill Our Hearts**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.**

**You alone, O Lord, are holy.**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

### **First Reading Galatians 5:22-25 (CEB)**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.

One: God be in our listening, God be in our understanding.

**All: Amen.**

### **Anthem**

### **Second Reading John 15:7-17 (CEB)**

“<sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. <sup>12</sup> This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. <sup>17</sup> I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.”

One: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon     **Resurrection People Bear Fruit for the World** *Diane Walton Hendricks*

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND ARE SENT TO THE WORLD**

### **Communion Anthem**

### **Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right... As our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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.**

**Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People**

**Hymn During Communion Presbyterian Hymnal #517**

**We Come as Guests Invited**

**We come as guests invited  
when Jesus bids us dine,  
his friends on earth united  
to share the bread and wine;  
the bread of life is broken;  
the wine is freely poured  
for us, in solemn token  
of Christ our dying Lord.**

**We eat and drink, receiving  
from Christ the grace we need,  
and in our hearts believing  
on him by faith we feed;  
with wonder and thanksgiving  
for love that knows no end,  
we find in Jesus living  
our ever-present friend.**

**One bread is ours for sharing,  
one single fruitful vine,  
our fellowship declaring  
renewed in bread and wine:  
renewed, sustained, and given  
by token, sign, and word,  
the pledge and seal of heaven,  
the love of Christ our Lord.**

**Prayer After Communion**

**Minute for Ministry**

**Ringling of the Bell**

## Charge and Benediction

### Benediction Response Presbyterian Hymnal #111

**Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing  
Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.  
We can be reached at [office@cliftonpc.org](mailto:office@cliftonpc.org)*

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License #A- 721138 and CCLI License 20618208.  
Liturgy taken from Carol Holbrook Prickett, Presbyterian Outlook Worship Resources for May 5, 2024.

### Thanks to those leading us in worship

**Hosts: Joanne Woodward and Joyce Rarumangkay  
Deacon Note Taker: Barbara Brown  
Liturgist: Mark Lorey  
Technical Team: Jen Basham  
Sanctuary Flowers: Open  
Mission Elder: Mark Reimers**

### **CPC STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor  
John Kim, Music Director  
Hannah Harris, Lead Vocalist  
Debbie Kilpatrick, Office Administrator  
Amy McConaghie, Preschool Director  
Rev. Dr. Lynn Stanton-Hoyle, Pastor Emerita