



Graphic by Roman Diascro

McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church
10:30 May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

GATHERING TONES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing, all people of God! Sing the good news:

**We cry ourselves to sleep and God comes in with the dawn,
to awaken us with Joy's embrace.**

Sing, in every land, in every tongue! Sing the good news:

**when our lives bottom out, God takes us by the hand to lead us into the
light.**

Sing, in heaven and on earth! Sing the good news:

broken, hopeless, lost - we cry out to God, who hears our hearts.

Sing, all people of God!

We will sing the good news of Easter!

OPENING PRAYER

Psalm 30 NRSV

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.
O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.
Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.
As for me, I said in my prosperity,
“I shall never be moved.”
By your favor, O Lord,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.
To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:
“What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!”
You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul[c] may praise you and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

I invite you to join me in lighting candles of hope for the world.

May our prayers for peace and justice shine through our lives and into God's world.

All are invited to come forward and light candles representing prayers for peace.

VOLUNTARY

“Andante Tranquillo”

Felix Mendelssohn

CALL TO CONFESSION

We can carry our grudges around with us for years, just waiting for the right time for our hurt to erupt. But God surrounds us with grace and mercy all the days of our lives. Join me as we pray to God, saying,

We sing loud songs to you, Morning Joy, trusting they will drown out our mean-spirited murmurs about those around us. We hope you will turn a blind eye to our behaviors, while we imprison our families and friends with impossible expectations. We pull a muscle stretching to pat our selves on the back, but our attitudes and actions towards the poor and outcast of the world reveal truth.

You never give up on us, Healing God. You are quick to forgive us, and quicker to offer us ways to share your name with everyone we meet. As you continue to be loving and affirming towards us, let us go to share the good news of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Do not cry. The Lamb of God has come, to lead us into the kingdom, where we may praise our God, and serve our sisters and brothers.

Songs of blessing, glad shouts of joy; hearts for others, hands for service. All these we offer, and more, to the One who forgives us and makes us whole.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

HYMN #43

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

Charles Wesley

RECOGNITION OF COLLEGE GRADUATES

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of God be with you. **May the peace of God be with us all.**

ANTHEM “We Sing the Praises to Our King” Shekinah Glory
We sing the praises to our King for He is the King of Kings.
Give Him glory for He is the King.
All hail King Jesus. All hail Emmanuel. He reigns forever.
All hail King Jesus.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Revelations 5:11-14

REFLECTION “The Songs of Resistance” Rev. Cindy Shepherd

HYMN #300 “Jesus Shall Reign” Issac Watts

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth. Please pass the offering plate down the pew. When it gets to the end turn around and give it to the person immediately behind you.

OFFERTORY “A Miniature” Gordon Phillips
Collection of Pledges and Tithes

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below. O praise God! Alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts! Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

O praise God! Alleluia! O praise God! Alleluia! Allelu-ia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Creator God, through your love you have given us gifts to share. Please accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thankfulness and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures. With all creation we bless your holy name, and pray together the prayer Jesus taught:

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin 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 SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Liturgy by M. Jade Kaiser

The recipe for communion bread is adapted by Julie Birdwell from "Gluten-Free Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day," written by Hertzberg and Francois, and uses a gluten-free sourdough starter. For those who are curious, it contains Sorghum Flour, White Rice Flour, Brown Rice Flour, Oat Flour, Teff Flour, Tapioca Flour, Potato Starch, Water, Xanthan Gum, Turbinado Sugar, kosher Salt. The ceremonial loaf is a yeast-free, vegan loaf using gluten-free flour and oat milk. We are willing to further adapt the recipe if any of these ingredients is problematic for any allergy sufferer, just let Julie know.

In addition to GF bread, McKinley uses only non-alcoholic grape juice in our common service.

The Holy One be with you

And also with you

Open your hearts to the One who is Love

We open our hearts to you, O God

Let us give thanks to God, our life-breath

To the One who sustains us, we rejoice in your presence!

With gratitude, O God, we remember that it is through you we are made truly alive. Every creature and creation – the tiny ones, the scaly ones, the human ones, the leafy ones – all that is has been shaped by you.

There is nothing on this earth that has not been touched by your Sacred hand. In your love for us, you claim us – individually and as a whole – as your beloveds. You will for us life abundant and you invite us into co-working with you towards a world where harmony among all life is restored.

And yet, daily, we turn away from you and one another. Destructive and divisive powers lure us away from connection and relationship. We forget

that we need each other. We pretend that our lives are not deeply entangled. When injustice threatens our neighbors, we too easily cower or hide.

Like those who turned on Jesus when things became too difficult, we too are tempted to desert those most vulnerable.

But you do not abandon us to our fear or sin. In the life of Jesus, Love enfleshed, we are shown that the invitation to join in your work of transforming and healing and restoring is always open. No matter our past. No matter our regrets. No matter the wrong done to us or the wrong we have done to others, you keep calling us back to you.

And so, we are reminded of the example given to us in the person of Jesus.

On the night of his arrest, he gathered around table with his companions. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said, "This is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

"This cup that is poured out is the new covenant."

And so in remembrance of the One who never gave up on love, we pray that the Spirit would make us one in our commitment to the liberation of all your creatures and creations. Pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup, that through these ordinary gifts, we might taste a glimpse of your Kingdom. May they be for us a reminder of what we are capable of becoming and what we are capable of accomplishing together. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Prayer after Communion

God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all your creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

Spiritual

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Modus ludendi pleno Organo pedaliter”

Samuel Scheidt

Assisting in Today's Service

Worship Leader, Barbara England
Guest Preacher, Rev. Cindy Shepherd
Liturgist, Paula Hancock
Pastor, Rev. Heidi Weatherford
Director of Children's Education, Sara McHenry
Director of Music, Dr. Alonza Lawrence
Organist, Andrew Woodruff
Worship Techs, Josh Harris and Lara Hebert

How to Contact the Church Staff All church staff can be contacted through the McKinley Website: www.mckinleycu.org.

How to give:

Online contributions and pledges are accepted at tithe.ly/give?c=2133263

Or by mailing your donations to
“McKinley Presbyterian Church”
410 E. Daniel Street



