

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

May 3, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**PRELUDE** (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**WELCOME** – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. Please see an usher.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: Peace-loving and peace-giving God, you bless us with your unfailing and unconditional love:

**People: We come to worship and praise our loving God, and rejoice in God's tender mercy towards us.**

Leader: Generous God, you pour blessings and grace upon us, forgiving us for our sin and shame:

**People: We come to worship and honour our merciful God, and rejoice in the wonder of forgiven and forgotten sin.**

Leader: Holy God, in the beauty of your shalom, and in the glory of your presence, all barriers are lowered:

**People: We come to worship and revere our glorious God, who enriches the lives of God's own people and speaks peace into the hearts of all faithful people. Amen.**

*© 2011 Joan Stott – "The Timeless Psalms" used with permission*

**\*HYMN He Has Made Me Glad (sing twice) FWS 2270**

**SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 100**

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. <sup>2</sup>Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. <sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and

praise his name. <sup>5</sup>For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS**

### **WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**UMH 95**

**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. Amen.**

#### **\*BLESSING THE OFFERING**

### **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

**HYMN OF PREPARATION    Here I Am, Lord                      UMH 593**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**Mark 10: 42-45**

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

#### **MESSAGE**

**"Serve Joyfully"**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (said in unison)**

**Lord Jesus Christ, we recognize how you have blessed our lives with the gift of the Holy Spirit so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown. We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others; the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours; the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world that we forget what you have said and done and promised. Lord Jesus Christ, we know that when we become disconnected from you, our lives**

**becomes parched and unfruitful and our faith becomes stunted and dry. Bless and renew our lives, we pray, so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places, strengthening our faith to expand and, growing strongly and vigorously, to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.**

*written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on Liturgies Online*

**COMMUNION**

**UMH 13**

**\*HYMN Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

**UMH 89**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION Family Prayer Song (vs 1) FWS 2188**

**EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES**

**POSTLUDE**

**Music Director: Mike Nelson**

**Videographer: Roger Vandegrift**

**Liturgist: Nancy Wachter**



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## ☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞

**TODAY – Social Hour** after the service and we will be packing Exam Survival Kits for SU Wesley Foundation

**May 4 (Monday) – One Board Meeting via Zoom.** See Linda for the link.

**May 8 (Friday) – Teacher Appreciation Event for Fruitland Intermediate School staff** – See Buddy or Jennifer for information.

**BIBLE STUDY** – Meets on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

**OUTSIDE CHURCH SIGN** – Please see Roger to donate.

**FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK** – Requests include canned fruit, canned meats, pancake mix and syrup, macaroni and cheese, apple sauce, and toilet paper. Donations due the first Sunday.

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST FAMILY SUPPORT** – Requests include: rice, beans, corn flour, vegetable oil, sugar, spaghetti noodles and sauce, and feminine hygiene products. There are labeled, plastic containers on the far side of the social hall for any donations.

***WE UNDERSTAND THAT EVERYONE IS EXPERIENCING HIGHER COSTS AND DO NOT EXPECT YOU TO CONTRIBUTE TO EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT IS PRESENTED. JUST LISTEN TO YOUR HEART AND ACT AS YOU SEE FIT.***

### **UPCOMING DATES**

**May 24 – Family Fun Nights Meeting**

**May 30 – God's Kitchen**

**June 13 – Yard and Food Sale to benefit Missions Team** – Please start gathering items to donate.

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

**NEWSLETTER** – Submit information to Paul Nelson at [pnelson37@gmail.com](mailto:pnelson37@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL HOUR** – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.