First Presbyterian Church
May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Serving Christ from the heart of the city to the ends of the earth with love, faith and action.
We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Beth Thaxton and Alex Stewart

Processional Prelude

“Aeolian Harp”

Davis Baker, piano

William Gillock

Call to Worship | Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me;
And lead me in the way everlasting.

Stewart Butler

Hymn No. 753

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Luke Brown, Annie T. Ham, Ama Kwabia, voice

Call to Confession

Eleanor Burns

Prayer of Confession

Braxton Bond

Gracious God, you are kind and forgiving as we stray from your righteousness. Caught up in our world today, we forget our mission of serving you and our neighbors. Help us look to you for guidance and wisdom Lord, and forgive us for our wrongdoings. You remind us to love, listen, and lead throughout our lives and for that we are thankful. Hear now our confessions offered in silence.

Kyrie | Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Camden Young

Response to Pardon

Friends in Christ, in response to this gift of God’s grace, how then shall we live?
With gratitude, following after the Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.
This is the way of Jesus, in whom we find life!

We Celebrate our Life Together

Solo

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Eleanor Burns, piano

Bach

Moment for Mission | Race Equity Intensive

Miller Pleasant

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Kwaku Kwabia

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Sophie Behrendt

Lord’s Prayer Liturgical Dance

“As It Is In Heaven”

Maia Stewart, Annie T. Ham, Anna Ross Carmichael, Catelyn Kramer

Michael W. Smith
We Listen to God’s Word

Moment for Children
Anna Ross Carmichael

Scripture Reading | 1 John 4:7-21
Connor Lang

Sermons
“Loving Boldly”
Charlie Ramquist, Maia Stewart, Colin Glasgow, Luke Brown, Allie Brown,
Trey Mumma, Erin and Solomon Hensey, Annie T. Ham, Ama Kwabia

We Respond to God’s Word

Hymn No. 769
“For Everyone Born”
Charlie Ramquist, Maia Stewart, voice; Ama Kwabia, Guitar

Affirmation of Faith | The Apostles’ Creed
Ben Kramer
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and
the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of
sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

An Invitation to Generosity
Catelyn Kramer

Offertory
“Beautiful Things”
Gungor
Ama Kwabia, guitar

Prayer of Dedication
William Brown

Senior Blessings
Beth Thaxton, Babs Nichols, Ed McLeod

We Bear God’s Word into the World

Hymn No. 543
“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” (O Christ, Surround Me)
Owen Beal, violin

Charge and Benediction
Preachers

Benediction Response
“An Irish Blessing”
arr. Nuss

Postlude
“Air with Variations” in Bb
G. F. Handel

Today’s acolytes are Ballard Baker and Davis Baker. Carrying the Bible today is Gray Jourdan.

The Chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in loving memory
of Jim’s mother, Mrs. Helen Louise Dority Crew, by Dr. and Mrs. James C. Crew.