

Edgecomb Community Church

United Church of Christ



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Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 15, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

The Ringing of the Church Bell

Prelude

Morning Has Broken

Lighting of the Candles

Greeting and Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Katherine Hawker

Come with what you have.

For you who grieve this day

know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.

**Loved by one another,
we discover God's love for us.**

Come with what you have.

For you who come with gladness

know that your melody will find harmony.

**Accepting God's love for us,
we are called to love one another.**

Come with what you have.

For you weighed down by too many 'shoulds' and 'what-ifs'

know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.

**Loved by one another,
we discover God's love for us.**

Come with what you have.
or you who have the answers,
know that new questions await you.
**Accepting God's love for us,
we are called to love one another.**

Come with what you have.
For you who come seeking,
know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.
**Loved by one another,
we discover God's love for us.**

*Hymn

O God Our Help in Ages Past

1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home;

2 under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure.
Sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

3 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

*Opening Prayer (*in unison*)

Rev. Susan A. Blain & Rev. Scott Ressman

**O Living God of past and future,
we praise you
for this present moment.
Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit,
that our strength may be renewed
to sing a new song of your glory
in a world which longs for your justice and peace.
All this we ask in the name of Jesus,
in whom we become
your new creation. Amen.**

*Prayer Response

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

**God, You who are always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people's worries,
against the winds of change.**

**God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.**

**Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Open up our lives,
and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Scripture Reading

John 13:31-35

Sermon

A Simple Command

*Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1. The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness fail me never
I nothing lack if I am his
I am his, and he is mine for ever

3. Confused and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he's leading,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feeding

Prayers of the Church

The Morning Offering

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ and Spirit one.*

The Prayer of Dedication (*in unison*)

Carol Penner

**We walk by faith,
we live by faith,
we give by faith.
God of great gifts,
you have given us so much,
accept these gifts from our hands,
our faithful response to your abundant grace. Amen.**

*Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

2 All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!
Center of unbroken praise;

3 Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our Brother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

The Benediction

*Please stand.

We remember in our prayers: Gary Spurgat, Kathleen Grigg, Ruth Sasala, Mike Finnegan, Joe Evans, Ron Leeman, Carol Johnsen, George & Pat Greene, the Betancourt family, and our neighbors at the Edgcomb Green.

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An Open and Affirming Congregation

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