

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SOUNDING THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE Katie McShane and Jesse Heasley

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We delight ourselves in the presence of Christ and his love for all creation.

All: Let us open our hearts to receive Christ's abundant love.

One: Christ calls us to see him as the vine and for us to become the branches.

All: Let us seek to produce much fruit in God's Garden where all are welcome.

One: Come, let us worship the Master Gardener, Creator of all that was, is and forever will be.

All: Amen and Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* vs. 1-3 #4 NCH

*GATHERING PRAYER

Living God, we embrace your presence in our lives. Help us to grow stronger together in your garden of love. Plant us together in your peace. Root us together in your hope. Transform us together by your equal justice for all. In your loving presence, we pray. 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.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8 Jesus is the True Vine

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION AND WELCOME

Invitation and Welcome

Words of Scripture

Questions of Affirmation and Commitment

Covenant, Welcome & Greeting in Christian Love

SERMON *Life and Love Grow* Rev. Char Corbett

*HYMN OF REFLECTION *Incarnate God, Immortal Love* #414 NCH
vs. 1-3

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Compassionate God may these gifts be blessed by your light that cultivates love for all creation. As our Master gardener, douse our dry branches with lifegiving water to renew our hope. Shine your peace on our weariness to bring us justice for all. With Christ as our vine, save us from all that seek to bring us harm. May these fruitful gifts be a blessing in your garden of love. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *De colores* #402 NCH

*BENEDICTION

**Please stand if you are able.*

We remember in our prayers: Tom Boudin, Margaret Ellsworth, Richard McEachern, Poppy Truchon, Marie Cooper's brother Mal Lux, Rev. Char's mother Cora, Rose Young, Ron Leeman, Amy Poole, Joe Dee, Kathleen Grigg, George & Pat Greene, Jeff & Jeanne Sewall, Carol & Eric Johnsen, the Betancourt family, and our neighbors at the Edgecomb Green.

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Edgecomb Community Church

United Church of Christ

"To bring together our communities in spirituality and loving service to humankind."



April 28, 2024

The Fifth Sunday After Easter

New Member Sunday

"God is still speaking"



An Open and Affirming Congregation

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Musicians: Katie McShane and Jesse Heasley