

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SOUNDING THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE Joe Cough, Pianist

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 98 & 1 John 5:1-6*

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song of hope and rejoicing!

**People: It is easy to praise God for God's wonderful acts of mercy and kindness.**

Leader: It is not a hardship to be God's beloved child.

**People: We are called to obey God's commandments and live in God's love.**

Leader: The ways to which God calls us are ways of Peace and Hope and Love.

**People: The love of God will conquer the world.**

**ALL: So we come, once more or for the first time, to open ourselves to receive Your loving presence. Fill us so we can live it out in our world.**

\*OPENING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* #4 NCH

\*GATHERING PRAYER with WORDS OF CONFESSION

**God of Love, You are boundless in Your love and You never stop pursuing us. Remind us not to give up on one another. In our ever-expanding world it is easy to take what one person says or does, in one moment, as an example of their whole being. Open our hearts to forgiveness, reparation and restoration. Help us to be healers in our own lives, and to seek forgiveness where we have harmed others. Guide us in Your ways of love. We ask Your help to be like You in our pursuit of justice and peace in this world. Let us do all things empowered by Your Son's love for us. For Christ**

**never failed to show us how much He loved us. Let us show how much we love Him by loving like Him. AMEN**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\*PRAYER RESPONSE

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

SCRIPTURE READING: *John 15:6-17*

SERMON "Abiding" Rev. Dr. Janet Peck

\*HYMN OF REFLECTION "Lord I Want to Be a Christian" #454 NCH

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

THE MORNING OFFERING

\*Doxology  
*Praise God from who 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

\*COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* #330 NCH

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Christ's Table  
Remembering the Last Supper  
Communion of the People

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank You God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all of Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. AMEN

\*CLOSING HYMN *This Little Light of Mine*

#525 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 Edgcomb Green.

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# Edgcomb Community Church

United Church of Christ

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



May 5, 2024

The Sixth Sunday After Easter

*"God is still speaking"*



An Open and Affirming Congregation

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Pianist: Joseph Cough, Jr.