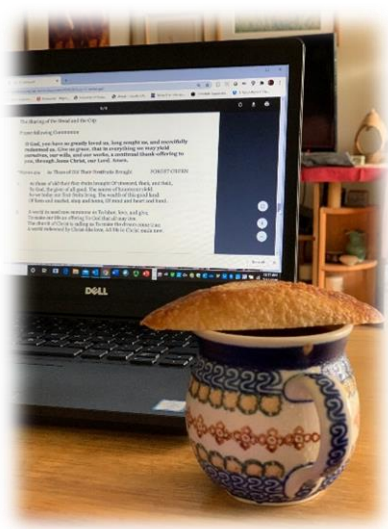


6th Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day



**May 9, 2021
at 10:30 a.m.
on Facebook **Live****

**or on our church website
at westminsterakron.org**

COME

Opening Voluntary

Morning

Flor Peeters
Elizabeth Crabtree, soloist

*I worship Thee at first blush of the morning, Dear Lord, when breaketh forth
Thy golden sun, Its daily course at steady pace to run, All nature with its
glorious rays adorning.*

*The fragrant incense of all flowering nature, The silvery dew, refreshing glen
and mead, The joyous lark and all its singing breed Laud God, the Lord,
earth's provident Creator.*

*The gentle zephyrs cool the air at daybreak, Join flowing brooks to chant a
simple psalm and bless the Name of God who doth becalm the storms of life
and mitigate sore heartache.*

*We welcome you to Westminster's online worship service this Sunday. To set a
more worshipful tone while watching this service at home, we encourage you to
find a quiet space and light a candle.*

*Today, we will be celebrating The Sacrament of Holy Communion together.
Please have your bread and juice nearby and be prepared to partake at the
appropriate time.*

*If you are joining us on Facebook Live, then you can find a copy of today's
bulletin on our church website at westminsterakron.org.*

*Call to Worship

Kate Clark

Sing to our God a new song.

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous songs and sing praises.

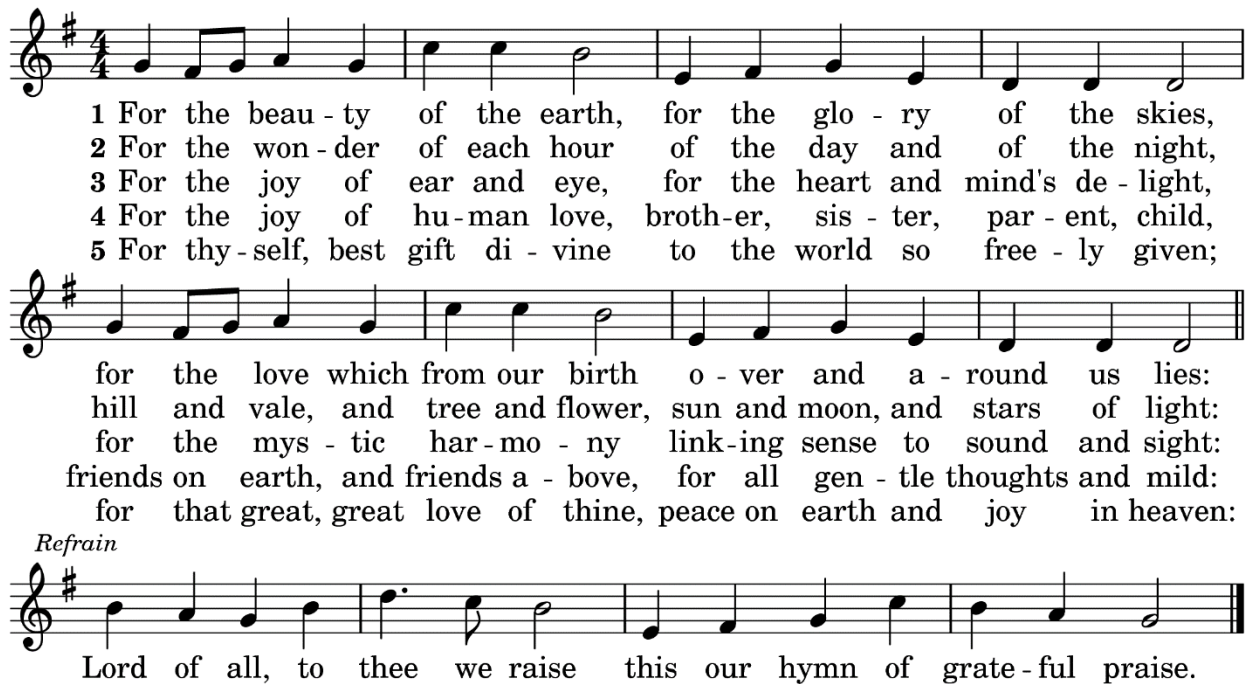
Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

*Hymn 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Refrain
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

ENCOUNTER

Call to Confession

We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his commandment: that we love another as he has loved us. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response 574

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends. If we can forgive our friends, how much more does Christ forgive us!

*Response 567

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Passing the Peace

We invite you now to greet one another saying, **The peace of Christ be with you.**

Time for Church Life and Call for the Offering

Let us show our friendship with Christ and our love for our neighbors by giving generously so that we may bear the lasting fruit of Christ's love.

Anthem

The Blessing of a Mother's Love

Becki Slagle Mayo

A mother's love is always near, to share my joy, to dry my tears. Her loving care helps me to see that God will always comfort me. We offer praise to God above for the blessing of a mother's love.

We pray that God will guide our way and help us every day to show God's love in all we do, God's love in all we do.

A mother's love is strong and sure, a love that always will endure, a love we feel with each embrace, a love we see upon her face. We offer praise to God above for the blessing of a mother's love.

*Response 592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Time with Young Disciples

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, in the reading of your Word, that we would hear what you have to say to us today. May your Holy Spirit be poured out upon us; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 98:1-9

Old Testament

- 1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.
- 2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- 3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- 5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
- 7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.
- 8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy
- 9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

The Second Lesson

John 15:9-17

New Testament

- 9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- 12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERVE

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Matthew 11:28-29

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of God in creation and for the work of Christ.

We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people. We thank you that you did not abandon us in our rebellion against your love, but sent prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we thank you for sending Jesus, your Son, to deliver us from the way of sin and death by the obedience of his life, by his suffering upon the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead. We praise you that he now lives and reigns with you in glory and ever lives to pray for us.

Together let us sing:

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al-might - y! ear - ly in the
morn - ing our song shall rise to thee; ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!
mer - ci-ful and might-y! God in three per-sons, bless-ed Trin - i - ty!

The minister offers thanksgiving for the work of the Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and out of every people unites us into one holy church. Send your Spirit upon us, we pray, that the sharing of the bread that we break and the cup that we bless may be for us the bread of life and cup of salvation. As these grapes have been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

Christ is the bread of life: **When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your life, ministry, death, and resurrection, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

In one voice, let us offer the words of the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

"The bread of life." "The cup of salvation."


Prayer following Communion

We bless you, O God, for the gifts of bread and cup and for sustaining us in hope every day of our lives. We pray for your strength to prepare us now for your service as we offer to you lives of witness and worship in the world you have made. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y.
stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,
Hold me with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of hea - ven,
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es
feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

*Charge and Benediction

Live in the joy of Christ's love and in all the marvelous things God is doing!

May the righteous fairness of God, the loving friendship of Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forevermore. Amen.

Voluntary

Fantasia on "Cwm Rhondda"

Arr. Dennis Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers in the Chancel are given by James and Mallory Gray in honor of Mallory's mother, Pamela Keenan, aunt, Lise Muellner; also in loving memory of James' mother, Deloris Gray and Mallory's grandmother, Barbara Pollard, and aunt, Susan Pollard.

Script June/July Deadline is Tuesday, May 11. Please send your articles and pictures to the office, to Claudine Schooley at wpcoffice1250@gmail.com.

Zoom Fellowship Gathering will immediately follow online worship Sunday, May 16 from 11:30 a.m. until noon. Pastor Jon will facilitate a friendly space for congregation members to chat using Zoom. Save the date.

Monday Bible Study is now meeting at a new time. We look forward to seeing you at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.



VBS 2021 – Monday, July 12 –Thursday, July 15

From 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. we will welcome you to WPC's Vacation Bible School Compassion Camp - Be loved, be kind, be YOU! This year we will be in-person (YAY!) but always adhering to current CDC advised protocol. The goal of Compassion Camp is to cultivate compassion for each other, ourselves and our world. Children aged four through the 5th grade are invited to participate while students 6th grade through 12th grade are needed to help "Shepherd" the younger children. This year, as we gather with caution, we are limiting the number of participants to 40, including the Shepherds. We are offering spots to our WPC families/members first, then opening to the public as room allows. Registration is coming soon. Any questions, contact Susan Shellito at wpcvbs1250@gmail.com

CALENDAR of CHURCH EVENTS for the week of May 9-15, 2021

Sunday, 5/9 Happy Mother's Day

9:00 am Youth Zoom Conversation
9:45 am Tween Sunday School via Zoom
10:30 am Worship Service on Facebook Live

Monday, 5/10

1:00 pm Zoom Bible Study
7:00 pm Book Discussion Off Site

Wednesday, 5/12

6:00 pm Outreach Committee Zoom Meeting
7:00 pm Discipleship Zoom Meeting

Thursday, 5/13

9:30 am Zoom WPC Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Zoom Adult Education

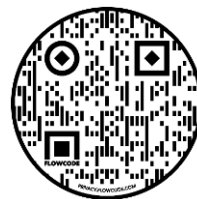
Friday, 5/14

2:00 pm Zoom Membership Committee
3:00 pm Music Director/Organist Search Committee

Saturday, 5/15

8:00 am Food For Life in the Kitchen
9:00 am Training Video Session in Sanctuary

Giving Online During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support. To give electronically on the WPC website click under the tab "online giving" and use this QR Code.



The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.



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