

Morning Worship
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sacrament of Baptism
May 22, 2022
10:30 a.m.

Welcome

Westminster Chimes

Greeting

Pastor Dennis W. Molnar

"The Blessing of Pets Event" Carolyn Kozlowski

Prelude Music

Robert Neumeyer

Scripture Focus

John 14: 15-24

Call to Worship

Elder Pamela Frost

Leader: Jesus offers us peace,

People: *So that we will not be afraid.*

The Holy Spirit reminds us,

We are never alone.

God makes a home among us,

Because God loves us.

God's goodness is breaking into the world.

We witness this in-breaking as healing, wholeness, restoration, and peace.

We do not expect the Spirit's movement.

Let us worship the Triune God in spirit this glorious day!

Opening Hymn

Come, Worship God

Glory to God #386

Young Disciples Time

Nancy Schultz

"Peace of Mind and Heart"

Scripture Reading

John 14: 1-14

Call to Confession

We are a people living in sin. We are a people in need of God's vision, praying for our eyes to be opened.

We are a people in need of God's reversal, praying for our hearts to be softened.

We are a people in need of God's reconciliation, praying that our faces might be illumined by God's presence.

Let us claim our need of God, confessing our sin together.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, try as we might to stop sinning, we fail more often than succeed. You ask us to love and keep your word. Simple instructions. Yet, even with the Advocate to help us, we still fail at loving and following faithfully. We define peace as the absence of disruption, holding our comfort as your aim and thinking our preferences reflect your way. O God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions. Forgive our selfish views. Correct us with your truth and teach us by your Spirit.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

It is the Lord who opens eyes to see. It is the Lord who softens hearts to hear.

It is the Lord who returns us to God's presence.

Peace, peace, peace— you are loved. You are enough. You belong.

There is peace in God's forgiveness.

In Jesus Christ you are restored.

Thanks be to our God forever and ever.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Special Music

I Will Serve the Lord All My Days
Chancel Choir, Carolyn Kozlowski, flute

Price / Besig

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

John 14: 25-31

Morning Message

"The Promised Gift"

Hymn

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

GTG #753

Sacrament of Baptism

Presentation

Profession of Faith

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Act of Baptism

The Welcome

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

GTG #488

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Stewardship of Life Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised

GTG #724

*Sending & Benediction

*Postlude

Robert Neumeyer, organ

We are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism for Avery Mowbray Dapper and Alaina Elizabeth Hosko today.

Avery is the daughter of Mowbray & Bryan Dapper, and younger sister of Dominic and Scarlett. Avery's spiritual sponsors are Greg Dapper and Kayla Keil. Alaina is the daughter of Alexander & Christy Hosko and younger sister of Brycen.

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Bob & Jan Timmerman, "To commemorate the 50th wedding anniversary of their dearest friends, Mercedes and Robert Faust." Mercy passed on to the Kingdom Triumphant on April 27th, 2019.

Prayer Request cards and Collection plates. Deacons are now collecting prayer requests during the singing of the first hymn. Prayer Request cards are in the pews – the new cards are a peach color. Deacons are also passing the collection plates in the pews.

Please remember with your prayers: Leslie Herock, at home recovering from COVID-19 and chemotherapy treatment for T-Cell Lymphoma.

Bobby Straub currently deployed. His address is Robert Straub PSC 825 Box 83 FPO AE 09712.

Childcare is now available during worship. Annali Criswell is our Child Care Provider along with a volunteer. Parents can drop off their children in the Child Care Room #101.

Unity Preschool transitions. The Unity Preschool has been in existence for 68 years. Lynn Wren will retire at the end of the 2021-2022 Preschool year as Preschool Director. **Stephanie D. Ferguson** has been hired by the Preschool Board to assume the responsibilities of Preschool Director. Stephanie is a dedicated, early childhood teacher with over 20 years of experience. She holds a degree in Elementary/Early Childhood Education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, where she graduated with honors. Prior to joining the Unity Preschool as a teacher in 2009, she worked for 7 years at St. Anne School in Castle Shannon teaching all core subjects as well as religion at the elementary level. Her areas of expertise include curriculum writing for the preschool program, program development, and differentiated instruction. As Stephanie has stated:

“On a more personal level, I have gravitated to teaching in environments that are in accordance with my faith. I need prayer in my life to help balance my personal and professional life. Faith and family have been the focus of my journey. Without my faith in God, I feel I would not be true to myself. I turn to my faith through prayer in good times and in challenging times. I find true balance at home and in my profession through my faith. The path I take in years going forward will be guided by God who helps me live honestly as a good Christian following my faith in Jesus Christ.”

We wish to express to **Lynn Wren** our deepest gratitude and respect for her professional leadership and dedicated service to the Preschool for the past 22 years. She has been a most valued leadership team member. Lynn will continue to work with Stephanie throughout the summer to help her prepare for the 2022-2023 school year. Thank you, Lynn!

On Sunday, June 5th, we will celebrate Pentecost with a Church Birthday Party following worship. We will be recognizing the seven youth who will be joining church that day through Confirmation.

Pentecost is a great time to unite with the Unity Presbyterian Congregation. If you are interested in joining as a member of Unity, please be in contact with Pastor Dennis, dmolnar@unitypresbyterianchurch.org, call or text 412-389-6844 or speak to Elder Tiffany Ennis.

Our Annual Pet Blessing Event is coming up on Saturday, June 4th! The event begins at the church “barking lot” at 10:30 a.m. and runs through 1:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to have your pet(s) blessed in the courtyard garden and have their photo taken. Blessing certificates will be provided once again this year. Local animal advocate groups/shelters will be represented. Our own Ken Nolte will provide his wonderful hot grilled food, and the Graeters Ice Cream truck will be selling cold treats. Hollywood Feed (formerly PetPeople) at Marshall’s Center on Greentree Road is donating treat bags for animals. With the raffle basket, pet treats being made and sold by our youth team, and a balloon maker, there’s something for all ages! Bring your furry friends and your human friends, and join the fun! You can register through Realm, the church web site, or by calling 412-561-2431 to let us know the name(s) of your pet(s).

Donations to Shelters. In April and May, the organizations selected to receive donations of food, toys and other items are *Merlin’s Cat Rescue* and *South Hills Pet Rescue*. “Wish lists” for both organizations are available in the transept and the church office. Donations may be dropped off at the Office or Petey’s Pals doghouse.

New signage in the church kitchen. We have recently gone through a major cleaning of most cabinets, shelves, and appliances in the kitchen area. We will be posting new signs with “care rules.” The kitchen is there for anyone to use. Going forward, we’re asking that groups and individuals observe the rules. As one sign says, The Kitchen is a Self-Cleaning Area – Please Clean Up After Yourself!

The Skit Guys, who produce many of the videos we use on Sunday mornings, have made a movie, Family Camp. It is now in local theaters. Check it out - you may just want to go to Family Camp at Camp Lambec, where Pastor Dennis will be the Summer Director.

We are still taking Chancel Flower Orders for 2022. The cost of two chancel bouquets is \$50. Please visit our website and complete the 2022 Chancel Flower Order Form which will allow you to order and pay for your flowers online. Or look for the link to the order form in *What's Up at Unity* email. Or call the Church Office (please leave a voice message if you call after 12 noon) or call Nicole Seghi at 412-496-3550. *These Sundays are available: July 3, 24, 31; Aug. 28; November 6, 27; December 18.*

Stewardship Snapshot

We are fully open for worship on Sunday mornings and look forward to seeing you. If you can't make it to worship we rely on you to send your donations to the church in the mail, arrange for your bank to send your check to the church, or make use of online giving (go to www.unitypresbyterianchurch.org, select the "Donate" button and follow the prompts.

It is really wonderful to see friends that we haven't seen in a while and having them attend more regularly. More people have chosen to use the convenience of online giving. It can be linked to your bank account or credit card. Online giving totaled \$5600 in April. There were 60 online donations.

Per Capita- 85 members have paid their per capita so far. As a church, Unity owes \$10,500 whether donated as per capita or not. It's \$35 per member and it has not increased in a number of years. We only need 192 (\$6615) more.

PASTOR PETEY'S COMMENT –My human was a little down the other day. He decided to listen to some "oldies" from a simpler time. "Incense and Peppermints" (Strawberry Alarm Clock, 1967). He wasn't uplifted by the often-repeated phrase "little to win, but nothing to lose" The Mamas and the Papas came through with "Dedicated to the One I Love" (1967). That made him feel warm and fuzzy...or at least fuzzy. I didn't like either song. It turns out that those were not simpler times, they were just different times. I would have told him that, but he didn't ask. Stay safe and keep healthy. Woof.