

Pilgrim Congregational Church United Church of Christ May 9, 2021 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

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https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57756 [retrieved May 3, 2021]. Original source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/mastababa/2398441001/.

Music streamed in today's service

Good Christians, All, Rejoice and Sing - David Schelat Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee - PH #8 God Be In My Head Ubi Caritas Ave Maria - Flor Peeters Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life - NCH #331 Grand Choer - Gordon Young

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Today's service will be recorded.

United Church of Christ May 9, 2021 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Pilgrim Congregational Church

Prelude Good Christians, All, Rejoice and Sing Welcome and Announcements Call to Worship

Sarah Fuller Chris Reaske

David Schelat

One: We are the church All: We join our hearts together.

One: We listen for the word of God through scripture.

All: We feel each other's joy and sorrow as we share in prayer together.

O God of the morning and the evening hours, let your Spirit come on us gathered now. Your people

call on you in faith, joining hearts and voices in thanksgiving and praise to your name. Amen.

One: And we gather across time and space to worship God now.

Opening Prayer

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Opening 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 thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heaven reflect thy rays, Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, Al who live in love are thine; Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.
- 4 Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began; Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love binds man to man. Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife, Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life. Amen.



⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

John 15:9-17

₉As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ₁₀If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ₁₁I 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. ₁₃No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ₁₄You are my friends if you do what I command you. ₁₅I 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. ₁₆You 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. ₁₇I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Children's Message

Sarah Fuller

Anthem

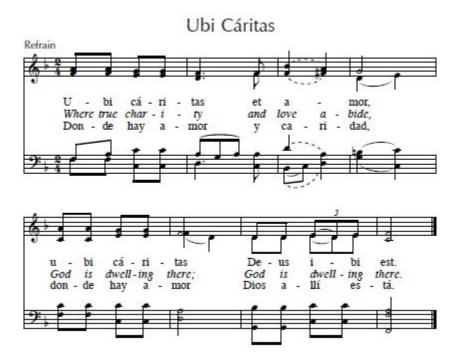
God Be In My Head

Max Evrard

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

Response Hymn



Dot Bowe

Passing the Peace

Prayers of the People and the Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father (Creator), 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Sarah Fuller

If you would like to support Pilgrim Church, you may mail in a check or arrange electronic giving by contacting Dave McClave. Additionally, we now accept donations via PayPal on our website under the tab Learning, Growing and Caring and select Giving. Thank you for your support.

Offertory

Ave Maria

Flor Peeters

Doxology (#515 Red)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

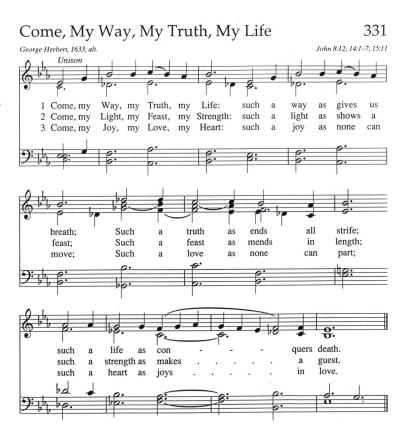
Prayer of Dedication

Chris Reaske

Through our offerings, O God, give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world; in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Closing Hymn Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life - NCH #331

- 1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath; Such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as conquers death.
- 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast; Such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes a guest.
- 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move: Such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.



Benediction	Rev. Reebee Girash

Postlude Grand Choer Gordon Young

Source Notes: The Call to Worship is by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org. The Prayer of Invocation is adapted from the New Century Hymnal.

The Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" was written by Dr. Henry Van Dyke, who lived from 1852-1933. He became a Presbyterian minister, college professor, and diplomat. The text of this hymn was written while Van Dyke was guest speaker at Williams College in Massachusetts. It is reported that one morning he handed the manuscript to the college president, saying, "here is a hymn for you. Your mountains (Berkshires) were my inspiration." After he handed the text to the college president, he declared, "it must be sung to the music of Beethoven's 'Hymn of Joy.'"

This music fits Van Dyke's works so well because they are both expressing joy in God's creation. The hymn was first published in Van Dyke's *Book of Poems* in 1911. It shows a spirit of optimism, courage, and faith in God.

-- Flora, Julia Ann. Suffering and Song: Lives of Hymn Writers. 2nd ed., Independently published, 2019.

