

THE WYOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
5th Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021
10:00 a.m.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“Though our feelings come and go, God’s love for us does not.”
–C. S. Lewis

PRELUDE “Contemporary Hymn Arrangements” *Susan Naylor Callaway*

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” *Trad. Jamaican*

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP *1 John 4:16,19*

One: God is love.

All: Those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

One: We love others because God first loved us.

All: Those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

One: We love God because God is our rock and our foundation.

All: Those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

One: Let us now worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN, 376 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” *Hyfrydol*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Love, we carry our fears around with us like pocket lint, when you would take those fears and toss them aside, spent and useless. You invite us to sit and chat with someone who wants to know more about you, but we are busy running errands. You give us a simple command—to love one another—and we complicate it with rules, worries, and doubts.

Forgive us, O Lord. You have planted those seeds of mercy, of hope, of grace deep within us so that we might bear rich and nourishing fruit for others. May we not get in the way of your Gardener, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who will use the Holy Spirit to bring forth an abundant crop. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

*GLORIA PATRI, 579

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.

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER READING Psalm 22:25–31

EPISTLE READING 1 John 4:7–21

SERMON “God is Love” The Rev. Heather Brannon

ANTHEM “Leaning on Jesus” *Schowalter arr. Lloyd Larson*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

HYMN OF PRAISE “Let All Things Now Living” *Ash Grove*

Let all things now living, a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us onto the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,

A pillar of fire shining forth in the night;
Till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
As forward we travel from light into Light.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayers.

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 and ever. Amen.

OFFERING

SENDING

*HYMN, STF 2151 "I'm So Glad" *Spiritual*

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*CHORAL AMEN, 587 "Amen" *African American*

POSTLUDE "I'm So Glad" (reprise)

You are now entering the mission field. May the peace of Christ be with you.

*Please stand as you are able.

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Service for the Lord's Day
May 2, 2021
Worshiping God and Serving the Community
Since 1873

The Call to Worship was adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook (2021).

The Prayer of Confession was inspired by Thom M. Shuman (2014).