

May 5, 2024

**Sixth Sunday
of Easter**

**Fairmount Avenue
United Methodist Church**



www.faumc.net

Prelude

Andantino

César Franck

The image features a dark, almost black background. A trail of small, bright white and light blue particles curves across the center, resembling a comet or a data path. Two overlapping rectangular frames are present: an inner one in a vibrant cyan color and an outer one in a slightly darker blue. The text 'Words of Welcome' is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Welcome, Happy Morning!

Adult Choir

Frances R. Havergal

Prayer of Invitation

Adapt. from UM Book of Worship No. 508:
Milton Vahey, USA, 20th cent.

As a tree in the forest becomes tall
reaching for the light
may we grow above the shadows of
sin, fear, and doubt.

***As it gives shelter and shade
to its friends of fur and feather,
so may we help those
who are smaller and weaker
than ourselves.***

The tree sends down roots
deep into the soil
that it may be nourished
by mother earth.

***May we be as firmly grounded
by the love of Christ
and sustained by his grace.***

If a tree falls and decays, it provides
nourishment for new plants
and gives its place in the sun for others.
***Our Lord and Savior died to make
a new life and a new place for us.***

When a tree in the forest is cut down,
its wood is used for shelter and fuel.

*Jesus taught that only when life
is surrendered,
when love is poured out,
can we build his kingdom
and reflect the warmth of his Spirit.
Amen.*

Passing of the Peace

Let us greet each other
in the name of the Risen Christ.
Peace be with you.
And also with you.

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Hymn No. 397 vs 1-3,5

WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872 (Jn. 15:5)

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

*I need thee every hour,
most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine
can peace afford.*

refrain

*I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to thee.*

*I need thee every hour;
stay thou nearby;
temptations lose their power
when thou art nigh.*

refrain

*I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to thee.*

*I need thee every hour,
in joy or pain;
come quickly and abide,
or life is vain.*

refrain

*I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to thee.*

*I need thee every hour,
most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed,
thou blessed Son.*

refrain

*I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to thee.*

Children's Time

Children are invited to come forward
as parents are comfortable.

Please note that those who come forward
may be visible on the livestream.

Collection and Blessing of First Fruits

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

O Lord My God

Adult Choir

John Rush

Offertory Response

Hymn No. 92 vs 6

*For thyself, best Gift Divine,
to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth, and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Prayer of Blessing

“Let There Be Light”

Hymn No. 440

WORDS: Frances W. Davis

MUSIC: Robert J. B. Fleming, 1967

Music by permission of Mrs. Robert J. B. Fleming

*Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all nations gather,
let them be face to face.*

*Open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace.*

*Perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain.*

*Hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be your name.*

***Your kingdom come,
your Spirit turn to language,
your people speak together,
your Spirit never fade.***

*Let there be light,
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.*

Congregational Prayer

We now offer petitions of joy and concern from prayer cards.

Lord in your mercy... *hear our prayer.*

In gratitude let us pray to the Lord... *hear our prayer.*

Prayers lifted during this time are shared with our Prayer Chain, a group of individuals who have covenanted to being in prayer with and for our congregation.

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:18-25

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Sermon

Sacrament of Holy Communion

"A Contemporary Service of Holy Communion"
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One: We have not believed you
or trusted in your power.

All: Lord, help our unbelief.

One: We have stained our souls
by our action and inaction

All: Cleanse us, Lord.

One: On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying, “This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood.”

One: Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us, we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us:

***All: Christ has come among us.
Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ abides with us.
Christ will come again.***

One: Pour out your Spirit on us.

All: Pour out your Spirit on us.

One: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.

All: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.

One: Make these gifts the body
and blood of Christ.

***All: Make us, through them,
Christ's body alive in the world.***

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Anthem

Communion Meditation

Adult Choir

Edwin Earle Ferguson

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 trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.*

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

TFWS No. 2197

WORDS: Jan Struther

MUSIC: Irish folk melody

Words by permission of Oxford University Press

*Lord of all hopefulness,
Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike,
no cares could destroy:*

*Be there at our waking,
and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
at the break of the day.*

***Lord of all eagerness,
Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands
were skilled at
the plane and the lathe:***

*Be there at our labors,
and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord,
at the noon of the day.*

*Lord of all kindness,
Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome,
your arms to embrace:*

*Be there at our homing,
and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord,
at the eve of the day.*

*Lord of all gentleness,
Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment,
whose presence is balm:*

*Be there at our sleeping,
and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord,
at the end of the day.*

Benediction

Choral Response

Benediction

Adult Choir

Garry A. Cornell

Postlude

March

César Franck

Go in Peace.

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