

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
May 14, 2017
"Fifth Sunday Of Easter"

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING RESPONSE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 31)

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; in your righteousness deliver me.
Into your hand I commit my spirit, O Lord, faithful God.
My times are in your hand.
Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

*HYMN "Sing Praise To God, Who Reigns Above" 483

CONFESSION OF SIN

O God, in Christ Jesus, have mercy upon us. We are not quick to proclaim Christ as our savior. We have our own desires that demand our devotion. Other people have power over us that we dare not deny. We sometimes confuse Christ's will and our own. At times it is awkward to confess him the source of new life. Forgive us our mixed allegiance and our failure to trust in your mercy and power. O God, hear our confession, and through Christ keep us upright.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

FIRST READING Acts 7:54-60

HYMN "God Of Our Life" 275

SECOND READING John 14:1-14

SERMON "Greater Works" Rev. Janell Blair

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Study Catechism

Q: What is meant by the final petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil"?

A: **We ask God to protect us from our own worst impulses and from all external powers of destruction in the world. We ask that we might not yield to despair in the face of seemingly hopeless circumstances. We pray for the grace to remember and believe, despite our unbelief, that no matter how bleak the world may sometimes seem, there is nonetheless a depth of love which is deeper than our despair, and that this love—which delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt and raised our Lord Jesus from the dead—will finally swallow up forever all that would seem to defeat it. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

* HYMN "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing" 538

POSTLUDE

*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to *stand*

Welcome: To all who worship with us this morning. Visitors and members are asked to please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad. Thank you for worshipping with us!

Announcements: Today we are thankful for the gifts of all mothers—both those who gave us life and those who have nurtured us along our path in life. Give thanks for all the gifts the mothers in your life have given you!

We will begin a new series of monthly Brown Bag Lunches with First United Methodist and Wesley United Methodist churches. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 6th at Noon at First UMC and Rev. Pam Lehman will lead the devotional.

Birthdays: May 17 – Chelsea Mills.

Flowers: Flowers were purchased this week by Carroll and Rosa Pace in honor of their daughter, Ann Porter and grandson, Garrett's birthdays.

Refreshments: Toni Pool, provided refreshments for the Congregation today.

Newsletter: Deadline to submit articles and information for June newsletter is **May 22, 2017**. If you have an article or announcement please turn it in to Silvia or slip it under the door to her office.

Pastor: Rev. Janell Blair (361) 920-2492

Pianist: Marilyn Pearce

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9: 30 a.m. Sunday School – Upstairs Parlor Sunday School - Room 104 Ed. Wing
10: 1 0 a.m. Fellowship Time – Southeast Vestibule **Session** – Session meeting – July 23, 2017
10: 30 a.m. Morning Worship

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