



Faith Community United Methodist Church

5315 Harford Road
Baltimore, MD 21214
Rev. Ronald S. Dodson, Pastor
church: 410-426-8177

Sunday, May 2, 2021 5th Sunday Of Easter
10:00 AM Service of Word and Table

WE GATHER FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

Keith Harmon

GREETING & VISITOR WELCOME

Wanda Mitchell

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us who would stand firm as a witness for Christ give praise.

For Christ died that we might know true life and know it abundantly.

And Christ lives that through him all who believe the Gospel may be heard.

But the world may refuse to hear God's word for our time.

The world has often rejected God's messengers, yet Christ is risen!

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN: FWS#2236 "Gather Us In"

PRAYER FOR INVITING GOD'S PRESENCE: **O God, In Your infinite wisdom You have entrusted us with the task of proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world. Give us the strength and courage to be faithful before You, Lord. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

[Silent prayers for confession and forgiveness of others]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! AMEN.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: UMH p. 6

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:7-21

*GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-8

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

We are ever growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: FWS #2224 "Make Us One"

Homily

Pastor Ronald S. Dodson, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

COMMUNION HYMN

Keith Harmon

COMMUNION: UMH pp. 12-15

WE CELEBRATE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

PRAISE REPORTS

PRAYER CONCERNS: *"Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace."*

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE OFFER THANKSGIVING

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY: O God, we do not present these offerings in order to proclaim our own righteousness, but as symbols of our love for you and your Church. Bless them we pray, and may they be as loving arms reaching out to show our love for your needy children. Amen

*DOXOLOGY: UMH #95 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

WE DEPART TO SERVE

REMINDERS

*BLESSING WITH A MISSION

*CLOSING HYMN: FWS #2022 "Great is the Lord"

Thought for your journey: *"Do not fear, for I am with you."* Isaiah 43:5
God's presence helps us live with peace and confidence.

We are ever growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference.

Scripture Lessons: for May 9, 2021

- Acts 10:44-48
- Psalm 98
- 1 John 5:1-6
- John 15:9-17

www.faithcommunityhamilton.org

Facebook: faith.church.

OPENING HYMN: FWS#2236 "Gather Us In"

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now in the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in – the lost and forsaken, gather us in – the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young – our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old – who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in – the rich and the haughty, gather us in – the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of the buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in – all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: FWS #2224 "Make Us One"

Make us one, Lord, make us one: Holy Spirit, make us one. Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you.

The Great Thanksgiving

CONFESSION AND PARDON

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

ALL: Glory to God. Amen.

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP: The pastor takes the bread and cup, and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also, with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

L: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

L: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: FWS #2022 "Great is the Lord"

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just by his power we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true, by his mercies He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice; Great is the Lord. Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord He is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love-Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true, by his mercies he proves He is love.

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you Lord, and worthy of praise. Great are you. Lord; I lift up my voice;

I lift up my voice; Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

We are ever growing in Christ, inviting each one to make a difference.