



J. J. WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024 * 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cassie Alston

Prelude

Praise His Greatness

arr. Mark Hayes

Introit

Oh How He Loves You and Me

arr. Benjamin Harlan

Call to Worship

Sing to our God a new song.

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

*Hymn No. 130

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

Gathering Prayer

Loving God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

Word

Anthem

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

Prayer for Illumination

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your Word we may be guided into the love of God for all the world.
Amen.

Scripture: Psalm 98; John 15:9-17

Sermon

Dear Friends

Rev. Cassie Alston

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805 (Gloria Patri)

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Hymn No. 776

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

+The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Insert

The Invitation to the Offering

Let us show our friendship for Christ and our love for neighbors by giving generously so that we may bear the lasting fruit of Christ's love.

Offertory

Lord, Be Glorified

arr. Mark Hayes

*Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends. Therefore we pray in Jesus' name that these tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sending

***Hymn No. 72 (vv. 1 & 3)**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*Charge and Benediction

Dear Friends, go now to live in the joy of Christ's love and in gratitude for all the marvelous things that God is doing! May the righteousness of God, the loving friendship of Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit go with you all. **Amen!**

Postlude

Victory in Jesus

arr. Carol Tornquist

*Please stand as you are able.

+ Gluten-free bread is available.

Announcements

Welcome to worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To our visitors, we offer a special welcome and invite you to join us again soon. Please fill out the blue card in your pew and place it in the offering plate when passed.

Thank you!

A big thank you to everyone who attended our White Elephant Sale on Wednesday evening! It was a great fundraiser that was filled with wonderful food, many excited bidders, and lots of laughs. Along with having a wonderful time, we raised \$759.50. Also, this event could not have happened without the efforts of our Fellowship Committee. Members of the committee are to be commended. It is a joy to see our church family working together as we grow. Sam Daniel, Fellowship Chairman

Address for Mary Ann and Tommy Ratcliff

We continue to pray for Mary Ann and Tommy Ratcliff as Mary Ann heals from surgery in Jacksonville. Tommy has provided their address, and many of us would like to send cards and letters. Mary Ann is on a restricted diet and cannot be exposed to flowers, so **please do not send food or flowers**. Cards and letters may be sent to the following address:

Mary Ann and Tommy Ratcliff
5000 Kernan Blvd., Apt. 108
Jacksonville, FL 32224

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance: 56

Offering: \$3,630.00

This Week at J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Wednesday, 5/8	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
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Upcoming Events

Sunday, 5/12	10:30 AM	Worship: Ascension Sunday Mother's Day
Sunday, 5/19	10:30 AM	Worship: Pentecost You are invited to wear red!

Questions for Reflection: In our Gospel reading this week, Jesus speaks of his extreme love for us, calls us his friends, and says that he makes known to us everything that he hears from God. How does thinking of Christ as our friend affect our daily living?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One, I begin today breathing in your love for me, for others, and for the world. Keep me mindful of all the marvelous things you are doing around and within me today. Help me to feel my friendship with Jesus and his confidence in me. Maintain in my heart the image of myself as a tree, bearing the fruit of Christ's love everywhere I go today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God, you are both judge and friend. Even as I review my day, I give it over to you. I let go of the good, the bad, and the in-between, trusting in your care for me. I am content this night to abide in your love. I breathe in your joy and your peace. Whatever I need, I ask of you in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Long, Kimberly Bracken, ed. *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year B, vol. 1*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014, p. 120-121.)

Sanctuary Flowers: The sanctuary flowers are given by Laris and Bill Mitchell.

J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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Church office open **Monday – Friday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**