

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

---

## WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

♪ **Organ Prelude** · Bobbi Hunter

*Hymn to Joy ... Paul Manz*

**Call to Worship** (responsively) · Lou Pennebaker

Leader: We come to this place where God pours out love on us,

**People: we join our voices in praise, as our fears are left behind.**

Leader: We gather with these people, those who seek to follow Jesus.

**People: So we might walk the paths of service hand in hand.**

\* ♪ **Hymn of Praise** · Christ is Alive!

No. 108

**Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

**We carry our fears around with us like so much pocket lint, compassionate God, when you would take them 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 - and we complicate it with rules, worries, and doubts.**

**Forgive us, Generous God. You have planted those seeds of mercy, of hope, of grace deep within us, so 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.**

*(silent reflection)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

---

\*  **Gloria Patri**

No. 579

\* **Passing of The Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## Greetings and Announcements

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### Scripture Reading · Ben Ball

Acts 8:26-40 (pg. 1705)

### **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

*He Loves You, My Friend!* ... Don Wyrzten

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Sharon Dinwiddie, accompanist  
(CCLI #20405356)

### Scripture Reading

John 15:1-8 (pg. 1676)

### Ministry of the Word · The Rev. Renée Rico

**“Bearing Fruit by Being Open and Curious”**

### New Member Recognition

We joyfully welcome into membership by reaffirmation of faith:

Al McLeod

Dorothy McLeod

Walter Hill, Jr.

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

---

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

- \* **♪ Hymn of Response** · Today We All Are Called To Be Disciples  
No. 434

### Acknowledgment and Blessing of Offerings

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

- \* **♪ Closing Hymn** · O God of Every Nation  
No. 289

- \* **Benediction**

- \* **♪ Congregational Response** · Go Now in Peace

**♪ Organ Postlude** · Bobbi Hunter  
*God of Grace ...* Paul Manz

