



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE ROSES

Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All God's People



Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020 ~ Mother's Day
Zoom Worship 10 am

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: Althea Wright *"Mansion Over the Hilltop"* by Ira Stanphill arr. By Fred Bock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Litany for Mother's Day (responsively)

Today, we are giving thanks to God for the gift of mothers
and the mother-like nurture that many people show to others in their lives.

Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us,
comforting and carrying us in her arms:

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you...." (Isa. 66:13)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us.

God knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children:

*"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?
Though she may forget, I will not forget you!"* (Isa. 49:15)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

David wrote that in God's presence,

he was quiet and at peace,

trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms:

*"But I have stilled and quietened my soul;
like a weaned child with its mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within me."* (Ps. 131:2)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself as a mother,

longing to wrap his arms around us,

like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings:

*"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...
how often I have longed to gather your children together,
as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings,
but you were not willing."* (Matt. 23:37)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry

and likens his work to that of a caring nurse who looks after those in her care:

"...but we were gentle among you,

like a mother caring for her little children.” (1 Thess. 2:7)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

With joy in our souls we now honor and worship you!

*HYMN #409

“God is Here!”

by Fred Pratt Green

*God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.*

*Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.*

*Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!*

*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Eddie Seamans

Holy God, by your Word and Spirit, come and transform us your church.

**Shape us to be a living sign of your love for the world –
where the poor are filled with good things,
the dividing walls are broken down,
and the spiritually dead are raised to new life;
through Jesus Christ our Savior and redeemer. Amen.**

*WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

Our God is a God of second chances, our Parent - Creator who never gives up on us even if we give up on God.

Know and trust that in Jesus Christ we are all forgiven and redeemed so that we can go out into the world with real hope that is abundantly contagious and life-giving. Alleluia! Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Deborah and Dennis Baker

OFFERTORY: Norm Smith *"Because He Lives"* by William J. Gaither

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 Deborah and Dennis Baker
This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM: Myles Ellis *"My Soul is Thirsting"* by Steve Angrisano

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: John 14: 1-7
This is the Word of the Lord!
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom!

SERMON *"Troubled Hearts"* Rev. Dr. Cindy Alloway

HYMN *"Be Not Afraid"* by Robert Dufford

*You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst
You shall wander far in safety, though you do not know the way
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all shall understand
You shall see the face of God and Live.*

REFRAIN:

*Be Not afraid
I Go Before you Always
Come, Follow Me
And I will give you rest*

*If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed
If you stand before the power of hell and death is at your side.
Know that I am with you through it all. REFRAIN*

*Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you all because of me.
Blessed, Blessed are you! REFRAIN*

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE: A Great Caregiver Prayer
Loving Creator, When we entered this world as tiny babies,
you gave us caregivers, who watched and waited on us,
who fed and clothed us, who taught us how to live.
We pause in this moment of silence to give our own thanks

for one special person who has changed our life:

For their work, and their love which has shaped us, we give you thanks! **[Silence]**

We pray today for caregivers;

mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts and uncles,

brothers and sisters and cousins, neighbors and family friends,

all who care for children and those with special needs.

Give us the wisdom we need to do this work!

Open our ears and eyes to the real needs of those in our charge;

open our hearts and hands to meet these needs.

Give us endurance, and patience and hope, and above all compassion,
treating each care-receiver as we would want to be treated.

You know us, God; you know the places where we have failed as caregivers;

we also need your help to mend broken or strained relationships,

we need forgiveness, we need closure.

Grant us peace in our relationships.

We lift up in prayer caregivers around the world

who face special challenges during this tragic time of the pandemic;

for those caregivers who are caring for orphans;

for caregivers who are without food,

walking long distances with children in their arms;

for caregiver refugees fleeing war-torn countries

who are trying desperately to protect their children from bombs, gangs, and guns.

So many dangers in this world, Lord, and you know them all.

Bring peace to our troubled times,

justice for those who are oppressed,

hope to those who feel hopeless.

God, you love us with a parent's love,

you care for us more tenderly than any mother.

You are the Great Caregiver.

Help us this week to be especially aware of your love,

your gaze upon us, encouraging us, sustaining us,

directing us to care for one another.

We ask these things as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to say: *(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 debts,

as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the

power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

Go now in the comfort and peace of the One who gave birth to us.
Go in the assurance that the Great Comforter and Sustainer is with us always.
Go to give comfort and peace to others.
Even if you still can't physically go anywhere... God will help you find a way.....

POSTLUDE: Althea Wright

"In My Father's House"

by Aileene Hanks

Pastor: *Rev. Dr Cindy Alloway*
Liturgists: *Eddie Seamans, Deborah & Dennis Baker*
Music: *Althea Wright, Myles Ellis*
Technology Director: *Norm Smith*
Video Production "For Mothers": *Steve Yeager and Nate Scoble*

Credit for Mother's Day call to worship:

~ from the **Barnabas in Churches** website: <http://www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk/a-call-to-worship-on-mothering-sunday/>

Credit for the Prayer of the People: adapted from a prayer written by Carol Penner, and posted on **Leading in Worship**. <http://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/>

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Rev. Dr. Cynthia Alloway, *Pastor*
Rev. Lynne Vandercook, *Parish Associate*
Myles Ellis, *Director of Music*
Althea Wright, *Accompanist*
Chelsea Howard, *Sunday School Teacher*
Steve Yeager, *Sacred Space Music Director*
Bajun Mavalwalla II, *Scripter*
Nico Wycoff, *Audio Tech*
Eddie Seamans, *Director of Youth Activities*
Ruth Canniff, *Office Administrator*
Nancy Morgan, *Finance Administrator*
Jami Knuthson, *Receptionist*
Susan Jenkins, *Rosebud Preschool Director*
Gia Telles, *Custodian*