



**First Presbyterian
Church in Springfield**

Service for the Lord's Day
May 2, 2021 | 10:00 am
The Fifth Sunday of Easter



..... GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Prelude

Life and Work of the Church

Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

*Call to Worship (inspired by John 15:1-8)

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God:

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

*Hymn #624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

see hymns sheet

Litany of Call and Confession (inspired by John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7)

Come with what you have.
For you who grieve this day
know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.
Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Come with what you have.
For you who come with gladness
know that your melody will find harmony.
Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.

Come with what you have.
For you weighed down by too many 'shoulds' and 'what-ifs'
know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.
Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Come with what you have.
For you who have the answers,
know that new questions await you.
Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.

Come with what you have.
For you who come seeking,
know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.
Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri: Glory Be to the Father

Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Moment for Mission

..... THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Children's Message

Anthem

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

arr. Mark Hayes

Second Scripture Reading: John 15:1-8

Sermon: *Bearing Fruit*

Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

..... RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn #450

Be Thou My Vision

see hymns sheet

Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Our Offerings to God

Our online giving portal: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCSdonate>

*Presentation of Offering: Doxology (Old Hundredth)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication of Our Gifts

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good... we praise your name and join in singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

(Cont)

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered... we are bold to pray:

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.

Communion

Prayer

..... GOING FORTH TO SERVE

*Hymn #22

God of the Sparrow

see hymns sheet

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude



Vocal Accompaniment - Ryan Wilson



**First Presbyterian
Church in Springfield**

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church in Springfield! We are a welcoming congregation that seeks to cultivate and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ in a community of learning, healing and sharing. It is our prayer that this will be a meaningful time of challenge and encouragement.



Wherever you may be on your faith journey, there is a place for you to participate here.

✦ ✦ ANNOUNCEMENTS ✦ ✦

Connecting with Photos for Mother's Day -

Last call to share: A photo of your mother, or you and your mother. Please send your photos, along with your name to Amanda Zimmerman zimmamanda@gmail.com. These photos will be shared on our website (under LIVESTREAMS), starting on Wednesday, May 5.

Adult Ed: Reflection on article, "America Without God" Thursday, May 6 & 13 from 7:30-8:30 pm -

"From 1937 to 1998, church membership remained relatively constant, hovering at about 70 percent. Then something happened. Over the past two decades, that number has dropped to less than 50 percent, the sharpest recorded decline in American history. Meanwhile, the "nones"—atheists, agnostics, and those claiming no religion—have grown rapidly and today represent a quarter of the population."

What implications does this have for churches – and for the American political system?

Join us the next two Thursdays at 7:30 PM, via Zoom, for an Adult Education discussion about the potential implications of these trends. Click the link below to download the article From The Atlantic that will serve as the background to our conversation.

America Without God – The Atlantic Magazine, April 2021 Issue
<https://tristardatasystems.sharefile.com/d-sf9002a4b41714dfeab4d32df529af256>

Here is the Zoom link for the Adult Education Session:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83813321526?pwd=THI2ZVU4Z3dHU2U0NIBQN3lLcUQxUT09>

Meeting ID: 838 1332 1526; Passcode: 954319