



The Presbyterian Church on the Hill
Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024
10:15 a.m.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

“The Gift of Love”

arr. John Carter

INTROIT

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

Peter Cutts

Like the murmur of the dove’s song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind’s rush, like the new flame’s eager might:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ’s body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annie Pantoja

If you complete a Connect card, please place it in the offering plate during the offertory.

** Please rise in body or spirit. Words in **bold text** are read or sung in unison.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

George Liddy

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

* HYMN 300

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you.

Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you.

We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough.

We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty.

We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace,

knowing the world cannot provide it.

Forgive us, we pray,

and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone...

Continue in silent prayers of confession until the liturgist says, “Amen.”

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations.

The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun.

Know you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE - HYMN 587

“Alleluia”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also, with you.

Let us share signs of Christ’s peace with one another.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children may come to chancel steps for a brief chat with Annie.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 4:7-12, 19-21 (NRSVUE)

George Liddy

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 15:1-8 (NRSVUE)

Annie Pantoja

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "God Is Love. Dios Es Amor. Dieu Est Amour. Gott Ist Liebe. Deus É Amor."

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

- Give in person using the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary.
- Give online by visiting www.pcoh.church/give or use the Vanco Mobile App.
- Give by mail by check payable to The Presbyterian Church on the Hill”



OFFERTORY

“Beloved, Let Us Love One Another”

Pepper Choplin

Beloved, let us love one another with love that comes from God.

For love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God.

For love is from God, and everyone who loves surely knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another with love that comes from God.

* DOXOLOGY

HYMN 609 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

* CLOSING SONG

“This Little Light of Mine”

arr. Yancy

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine! *Repeat*

Chorus: *Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine. I'm gonna let it shine!*

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine! (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine! *Chorus*

Let it shine all over the world. I'm gonna let it shine! (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine! *Chorus x 2*

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“This Little Light of Mine”

arr. Mark Hayes

*The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God by Wilma Wright,
in memory of her husband, Robert Kemble Wright.*

Serving Today

Host Team Captain/Co-Captain:

Michael and Robin Compoly

Greeters: Emma and Megan Zarodnansky

Lights and Sound: Jill Creveling

Vocalists: The Chancel Choir

Liturgist: George Liddy

Attendance: Megan Zarodnansky

Offering: Robin Compoly, Jon Galeros,
Emma & Megan Zarodnansky

Nursery Volunteer: Jamie Montero

Fellowship Time: Laura Evernham,
Connie Perry

Flowers: Robin Compoly

Welcome, Annie!

Today and next Sunday we welcome our former seminary intern Annie Pantoja to lead us in worship while Pastor Julie prepares for and attends the CREDO conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. Annie graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in May 2023, and has worked in transitional pastor roles while completing her final requirements for ordination. She is now certified and ready to receive a pastoral call. Welcome back, Annie!

Where is Pastor Julie? What is the CREDO Conference?

Pastor Julie is away today and next Sunday, but she is not on vacation. She is getting ready for a week-long “check up” for her spiritual, vocational, physical, emotional and financial health at a CREDO conference in Little Rock, Arkansas from April 30 - May 6, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church Board of Pensions. A team of experienced faculty will guide 30 pastors in a visioning and discernment process through various areas of well-being and wholeness. Pastor Julie has been on the waiting list for this first-come, first served, all-expenses paid conference since 2019. She looks forward to returning with renewed health and insight.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE, GROW, SERVE

MISSION

Beacon Food Pantry is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11 a.m. To volunteer, sign up at the Mission table in the back of the sanctuary.

The Pentecost Offering is another Presbyterian Church (USA) annual special offering. Part of this offering (40%) will support young people locally. The rest (60%) will support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Give at pcoh.church or write checks to The Presbyterian Church on the Hill earmarked “Pentecost Offering.”

WORSHIP

Time and Place for Summer Worship Services - Due to a change in plans with our summer tenants, our summer worship services will take place in the sanctuary, but at the same earlier time advertised - **9:30 a.m.** Another local congregation is interested in renting our sanctuary on Sunday evenings beginning soon. More details to come!

Worship Host Team Schedule

Date	Liturgical Day	Host Team	Captain/Co-Captain
May 5	Sixth Sunday of Easter/Communion	Team 5	John Barrier/Laura Morales
May 13	Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension	Team 1	Diana Griffith
May 19	Pentecost/3rd Grade Bibles/ New Members Received	Team 2	Jeanette Liddy/Carol Cox
May 26	Trinity Sunday Memorial Day Weekend	Team 3	Michael and Robin Compoly

SPIRITUAL GROWTH/OUTREACH

LIFE — after — LOSS

“Life after Loss”- Loss is a universal human experience. We can lose friends, spouses, parents, and children. We can experience the loss of health, the loss of a job, or the loss of a future we had anticipated. Elder and Licensed Social Worker Janet Lee and Deacon and Stephen Minister Pat Lee will facilitate a “Life after Loss” support group to help us process the experience of loss -- no matter what kind it is. The group will meet two Wednesday mornings each month, 11 a.m - 12:30 p.m. beginning May 8 and continuing through July. We are also exploring other possible times to gather. If you are interested in being part of this group, please complete a connect card or sign up online in the link in the Thursday email.

“Start the Party” Vacation Bible School (VBS)

July 22-25 (Monday - Thursday, 5:30-8 p.m.)

For kids ages 3 and older. Requested donation: \$10 per child or \$25 per family with three or more kids.

Signup at pcoh.church or scan the QR code.



THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, April 29

3:00- 10:00 p.m. - Film production crew on site

Wednesday, May 1

9:00 a.m. - Al-Anon - parlor

Thursday, May 2

11:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - Youth Group

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Friday, May 3

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Moms and Babies

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. - Graying with Grace

Saturday, May 4

5:30 p.m. - Centro de Fe y Esperanza (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, May 5 - Communion

9:00 a.m. - Sunday Bible School

10:15 a.m. - Worship in Sanctuary

6:00 p.m. - God Is Faithful Ministries

Pentecost Celebration - Sunday, May 19

Bible Presentation to Third Graders . . . Welcoming New Members . . .

Pot Lunch Brunch in Fellowship Hall after worship . . . Building Tours . . .

Wear red for Pentecost, when divided tongues, as of fire, appeared above each disciple.

They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages!



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Julie D. Thompson-Barrier: Pastor
Dr. Jeff Unger: Director of Music and Organist
Meghan Pringle: Director of Spiritual Growth
Beth Ruzanic: Communications Assistant
Tom Connors: Sexton
Jon Galeros: Assistant Sexton
Troy Rubio: Audio-Visual Technician

ELECTED LEADERS

The Session

Rev. Julie Thompson-Barrier, Moderator
Kelli Tobin, Clerk of Session

Michael Compoly
Marilyn Dicken
Janet Lee
Jamie Montero
Lisa Phillips
Randy Stolze
Jorge Tersy
Julie Thompson-Barrier
Kelli Tobin
Megan Zarodnansky

Board of Deacons

Co-Moderators Diana Griffith and Jeanette Liddy

Kerry Ascione
Shirley Carle
Robin Compoly
Shari DeMarco
Wendy Dutch
Jonathan Galeros
Diana Griffith
Pat Lee
Jeanette Liddy
Diana Marsden

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