

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

Aria, arr. P. Manz¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

People: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!

Leader: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

People: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, Hyfrydol²

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 with silent confession)*. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone. A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***ACCLAMATION HYMN** *Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven, Ode to Joy*³
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high!
Alleluia! to the Savior who has won the victory.
Alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity,
Alleluia! Alleluia! to the Triune Majesty!

***PASSING THE PEACE** *(please use a fist/elbow bump or wave for your greeting)*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please turn to the back wall and wave to our online worshippers, offering them the peace of Christ and then greet each other.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

1 John 4:7-13

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 lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

SECOND LESSON

John 15:1-8

"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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

After the message, children may follow the teacher to room 11 for Spiritual Adventures.

SERMON

The True Vine

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

*I Am the Holy Vine, Love Unknown*⁴

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

System 1: Chords: D, A7, Bm7, A, D, F#m, Bm, G.
Lyrics:
1 I am the ho - ly vine which God my Fa - ther tends.
2 If you a - bide in me, I will in you a - bide.
3 I am the fruit - ful vine, and you my branch - es are.

System 2: Chords: Em7, F#m, Bm, F#m, E.
Lyrics:
Each branch that yields no fruit my Fa - ther cuts a -
Each branch to yield its fruit must with the vine be
If you a - bide in me, I will in you a -

System 3: Chords: A, D, C, Em, C, G.
Lyrics:
way. Each fruit - ful branch he prunes with care
one. So you shall fail to yield your fruit
bide. So shall you yield much fruit, but none

A D G D G A D

to make it yield a - bun - dant fruit.
 if you are not with me one vine.
 if you re - main a - part from me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
 Pastoral Prayer
 The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 240 (refrain) *Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks, Alleluia* No.1⁵
 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY

Abide With Me, arr. B.L. Hanson⁶

***DEDICATION HYMN 609** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, Lasst Uns Erfreuen*⁷
 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.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 729**

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, I Want to Be a Christian*⁸

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Le Grand Jeu, Benaut*⁹

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Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

The Chancel Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Karen Stephens, Bill Tanke, Erin DeMuth, Sandra Cole (Deacon)

Liturgist: Ann Rowley

AV/Tech: John Tarr



WPC ANNOUNCEMENTS



Madison College Presents: Brunch Series: Black Spaces

Saturday, May 4th, 11am - 1pm at Madison College, Goodman South Campus, 2429 Perry St.

Panelists: Rev. Dr. Alex Gee, Dr. Reuben Anthony, Julian Walters, Michael Emem, and Michael Ford will discuss black spaces that create opportunities for Black people to heal and thrive in the past, present, and future and provide specific strategies and resources to build. The event is free, but registration is required (use QR code).

Pentecost “Jazz” Worship Sunday

On Pentecost Sunday, May 19 (9:45AM), Westminster will gather in worship to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. Perhaps no other musical style better embodies the free movement of the Holy Spirit than the inspired innovation of jazz. To enhance our worship experience, we will welcome a trio of guest jazz musicians (piano, string bass, and drums) from Dream City Jazz.

Dream City Jazz is an ensemble that epitomizes the vibrant tapestry of jazz music, seamlessly blending tradition with contemporary flair. Hailing from the heart of the Driftless region of Wisconsin, Dream City Jazz has cultivated a sound that resonates with fans of classic jazz while pushing the boundaries to incorporate elements of modern musical genres. The repertoire ranges from timeless standards to innovative original compositions, all delivered with the impeccable skill and passion of its members.

On this special Sunday, you are encouraged to wear red, which is the liturgical color of Pentecost. Dream City Jazz will be offering an extended prelude, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. Please be sure to invite a friend to worship with you through jazz at Westminster on May 19! More details on Dream City Jazz will also be in the May newsletter.

Allied Drive Open House

Wednesday, May 8 from 12-3PM at 2225 Allied Drive.

Meet our team, learn about free services, pick up giveaways, and grab snacks.
EVERYONE WELCOME!

SAVE THE DATE!

VBC: Kids & Volunteers - mark your calendars for Summer Vacation Bible Camp August 13-16 , 9am-12pm. More details coming!

Mallard's Baseball Game Outing - June 9th.

We will be going out to the Duck Pond to enjoy a Mallard's baseball game on Sunday, June 9th at 4 PM. Past participants have had a great time cheering on our local team. We will have reserved group seating in the grandstand on the first base side. The cost is \$16 and will include a Mallard's baseball cap. Sign up is in the Narthex. Deadline for sign up is Wednesday, May 29.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Care List: Kathy Waggener, Traudie Holman, Nancy Prine, Lynn Chapman

Members & Friends: Rick & Connie Dettloff

