



ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Hopewell UMC has a vision to be a community of hope for a hurting world.

Mission Statement: *We are a home for ALL people to be transformed by the love of God and grow in mind, body, and spirit.*

Our Core Values: *Worship. Learn. Serve. Love.*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is the True Vine,

People: And we are the branches.

Leader: We are connected to God.

People: Connected to bear fruit!

Leader: Without being connected to God, we wither away.

People: O God, may we abide in You and You in us this day. May our worship glorify Your holy name. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER:

Great Gardener, we come before you today and celebrate Your powerful love for this world. Your grace and mercy continue to astound us. In these last days of the Easter season, we gather in adoration at the coming of Jesus into this world and into our lives. Remind us that you live within us and strengthen us with the power to bear the fruits of joy, peace, hope, and love. We thank you for welcoming us into your great garden, and for trusting us to draw all people into the abiding love of Christ. Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

Lord I Lift Your Name on High

TFWS #2088

CHILDREN'S MOMENT
PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Old Testament: Psalm 22:25-31 (NRSV)

25

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!

27

All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

28

For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

29

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

30

Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,

31

And proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

New Testament: John 15:1-8 (NRSV)

Jesus the True Vine

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. **2** He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. **3** You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. **4** 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. **5** 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. **6** Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7** If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

HYMN OF PREPARATION:

The Summons

TFWS #2130

SPECIAL MESSAGE:

The Maker's Place

Rev. Michael Reed

OFFERING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH pg. 13

CLOSING HYMN:

One Bread, One Body

UMH #620

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE