Worship on the Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson, Designated Term Pastor Diane Dawson Dexter, Organist

Prelude "To a Wild Rose" by Edward MacDowell

Welcome

Call to Worship

The Lord says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Jesus offers us abiding peace and friendship to renew our souls. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." He gives us wisdom to guide us on our journey of life. Jesus says, "Where I am, there you may be also." In his presence, we worship God.

Prayer of the Day

We behold your glory, gracious God, in the love you have shown through your Son, who was lifted up on the cross and now is exalted on high in heaven. Be glorified anew in the love we have for one another as disciples of the risen Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn 322 "Up from the Grave He Arose"

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, in baptism you claim us as beloved children in your family and set us apart as witnesses to your love in Jesus Christ. We confess that at times we forget that we have received your grace and act as if you have no claim on our lives. You call us to be people who show compassion and generosity, but we make little room in our lives for mercy beyond moments of kindness. Transform us by your Word and Spirit, that we might proclaim your good news in what we say and do. Amen. Assurance of Forgiveness

Prayer for Illumination

| Old Testament | Psalm 22:25-31 | |
|---------------|---|----------------------|
| New Testament | John 15:1-8 | |
| Sermon | "Only Connect" | Dr. Rosanna Anderson |
| Offertory "Go | "God in His Love for Us" by James P. Harding | |
| Prai Prai | Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. | |

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, you are the vine grower and we belong to you. Thank you for carefully tending us, especially in difficult times. You provide what we need so that we may grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. By the presence of your Spirit, help us to abide in him, the true vine. May these gifts and our lives bear much fruit and bring glory to you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 144 "This Is My Father's World"

Benediction

Postlude "God Be with You Til We Meet Again" Save the date for our **Spring Fair** on Satu

Church Calendar

Wednesday, May 1 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Parlor and online **Book Group on Julian of Norwich** Chapter 3 "Blood"

Thursday, May 2 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Parlor

Moms' Group: coffee and conversation with or without kids

Sunday, May 5 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary and online **Worship Service on the Sixth Sunday of Easter**

5:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall and online **Congregational Meeting**

Wednesday, May 8 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Parlor and online **Book Group on Julian of Norwich** Chapter 4 "Bodies" (p. 81 - 97)

Thursday, May 9 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Parlor **Moms' Group**: coffee and conversation with or without kids

Sunday, May 12 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary and online **Worship Service on Ascension Sunday**

Union Chapel (United Church of Christ)

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The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson, Designated Term Pastor Becky Walters, Administrative Assistant Laura Chapman, Sexton

"Whoever you are and wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here."



The Rev. Dr. Rosanna Anderson April 28, 2024

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P.O. Box 192, 821 Crescent Avenue Fishers Island, NY 06390 788-7898

www.fiunionchapel.org