

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER ● COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

May 17, 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTER // IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM SERVICE

All music used by permission. CCLI License #1325764; CCLI Streaming License #20116748

Liturgist: Karen Hopkins

[CC] = closed-captioned
* **Congregation Standing**

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer

WELCOME

CENTERING HYMN

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

UM #328

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings;
I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The hour has come, Christ has been glorified.
And through him, God is glorified in us.
Jesus prays not only for his disciples,
But also for all who belong to him.
We are held in his prayer,
Kept in God’s name and surrounded by grace.
Come, let us worship the God who calls us and keeps us.
Let us worship with joy and thanksgiving!

*PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Eternal and gracious God,
You are the source of life and the giver of all good things. In Jesus Christ, you have revealed your glory—not in power alone, but in love poured out for the world. As we gather in worship, draw us into your presence. Remind us that we are known, loved, and held in Christ’s own prayer. Open our hearts to your Spirit so that we may worship you in truth and in joy. Unite us as your people so that we may reflect your glory in the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with softer gleam,

Refrain:

*Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,

Refrain

O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,

Refrain

All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,

Refrain

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

You have called us to be one, yet we cling to division. You have given us your truth, yet we follow our own ways. We seek glory for ourselves rather than living for your glory.

We forget that we are held in Christ’s prayer and live as though we were alone.

Forgive us, we pray. Gather us again into your love. Make us one in Christ, so that the world may know your grace. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Here and believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*THE RESPONSE

“Glory Be to the Father”

GTG #581

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.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Having been reconciled to God through Christ, let us share that peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you..

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God,
Speak to us through your Word. As we hear the prayer of Jesus, open our hearts to receive your truth and to trust that we are held in your care. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

ANTHEM

“Hear My Prayer”

Moses Hogan

O Lord, please hear my prayer,
In the mornin' when I rise.
It's your servant bound for glory.
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer,
Keep me safe within your arms.
It's your servant bound for glory.
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done
and you come to take me home.
Just to know I'm bound for glory.
And to hear you say, "Well done."
Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy, mercy.
Amen

GOSPEL READING

John 17:1-26

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Jesus Prays for You”

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

MESSAGE

“So We May Be One”

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

***RESPONSIVE HYMN**

“How Firm a Foundation”

GTG #463

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand

When through the deep waters I call thee to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no, never forsake

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“I Surrender All”

(Video)

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

GTG #606

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.

Praise God the Father who's the source;
Praise God the Son who is the course;
Praise God the Spirit who's the flow;
Praise God, our portion here below!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God,
Receive these gifts we offer and use them for your glory. May they serve your
purposes in the world and reflect the love of Christ, who prays for us and sends us
forth. In his name, we pray. Amen.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Lift High the Cross”

GTG #826

Refrain

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.

Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally.

Refrain

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.

Refrain

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Hyiwot Teshome

*THE SENDING

“I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

TFWS #2151

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me
Singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me

Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me
Singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me
Singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire,
let the wicked perish before God.
But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.

Sing to God; sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds[a]—
his name is the Lord—
be exultant before him.

Father of orphans and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.
God gives the desolate a home to live in;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.

O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah*
the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;
your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*
O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel
and whose power is in the skies.
Awesome is God in his^[a] sanctuary,
the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!

John 17:1-26

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not

belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

"I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them."

CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF MAY 17- MAY 24

All meetings are via Zoom (unless otherwise noted).

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect to, engage, and invest in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 5/17	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Scheduled liturgist: Karen Hopkins</i>)
	11:30 am	FELLOWSHIP (Room 10)
Sun, 5/24	8:30 am	CHRISTIAN APPLICATION
	10:30 am	PENTECOST WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person and livestream</i>) (<i>Scheduled liturgist: TBD</i>)
	11:30 am	FELLOWSHIP (Room 10)

