

April 28, 2024

Welcome and Announcements:

David Tom

Music to Prepare Our Hearts:

Michael Snyder

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

Tedd South, based on a melody by Martin Luther

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Call to Worship: *

Bev Svoboda

Leader: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

People: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

People: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

People: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

People: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

UMH #384

Opening Prayer *

Bev Svoboda

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

A Time of Prayer

Pastoral Prayer
Time of Quiet for Personal Prayer

Pastor Philip

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading #1: John 15:1-8

Bev Svoboda

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Scripture Reading #2: 1 John 4: 7-21

Bev Svoboda

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear,

because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

Hymn of Reflection: *	“How Can We Name a Love”	UMH #111
Message:	“Bearing Fruit”	Pastor Philip
We Share Our Gifts		Pastor Philip
Music During Offering:		Nancy Tom
	Improvitational Music	
Doxology: *		UMH #95
	“Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow”	
Closing Hymn: *	“Near to the Heart of God”	UMH #471
Benediction:		
Music for Going Forth:		Michael Snyder

“Recessional”

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

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***Please stand as you are able**