

Grove Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship

(6th Sunday of Easter)

May 21, 2017

10:15 AM

--Ready for the Word--

Announcements and Welcome

Musical Prelude

by Sherman

“Hello, Muddah, Hello, Fadduh”

Invitation to Worship

Leader: We long for community and the Presence of God.

People: In whom we live and move and have our being.

Leader: This day Christ tells us that we will never be alone. An Advocate will share our journey.

People: With whom we will live and create community and celebrate being.

Leader: May the ever-present love of God be with you, and may the joy of Christ surround you.

All: As an Easter People following a Risen Lord, may the life of Jesus live on in us and through us as we worship.

Choral Beginning

by Schlicter

“Sing a Song of Church Bells”

*We Sing Together

Hymnbook No. 376

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

We Confess Together

Holy Advocate, it seems, at times, we forget that you know us at our very depth. We become anxious and afraid that you are not with us, and that our lives have lacked meaning and purpose. You have called us to great things, but we focus instead on what we lack, rather than on Whose we are. By your mercy, help us to live out the commandments of Christ beyond these walls, beyond this hour, and in so doing, may we become for the world the very presence of justice, hope and peace.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: All of us have been created and called to be in community. Know this, but more importantly, live this:

People: As God’s children we are loved and equipped for great ministry. Follow Jesus’ commandment to love boldly as you are held in the grace and love of God.

*Response – sung by Cherubs, then Congregation

*Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! (3x) The Bible tells me so.*

--Receiving the Word--

*Passing of the Peace

Children’s Story

*Song of Praise

Hymnbook No. 461

“God Is Here!”

Prayer for Understanding

Epistle Lesson (page 137)

Acts 17: 22 - 29

New Testament Lesson (page 108)

John 14: 15-21

Reflection

“Teach Your Children Well”

Baccalaureate

Musical Offering

“Jesus Calls”

--Responding to the Word--

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Hymnbook Pg. 16

Offertory

by Hopson

“The Gift of Love”

*Hymn of Commitment

Hymnbook No. 430

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

*Blessing

Leader: Now go back into the world from which you have come and let love be true and freely given.

People: And may we be encouraged and blessed by the Advocate whose love warms and surrounds us like the sun, believing that God is with us always, as close as our beating hearts. Amen.

*Choral Benediction

by Newman

“You’ve Got a Friend In Me”

*Musical Postlude

by Scott

“Praise God in His Holy Temple”

*Please rise as able

Participants in today’s service include: Aidan Kennedy (worship leader), Junior Choir (prelude, benediction), Cherubs (choral beginning, response), Senior Choir (offertory), Joy Christian (organist), Rev. Steve Engelhardt (children’s story, reflection). Reflection for next week: “Lest We Forget”

Community Advocate: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of Easter were written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain, Minister for Faith Formation; Curator for Worship and Liturgical Arts, United Church of Christ.