



Fifth Sunday
of Easter

May 18, 2025

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Prelude

Clerambault

Welcome

Call to Worship

If you were not risen, Lord Christ, to whom would we go to discover the radiance of the face of God?

If you were not risen, we could not be together to seek your communion.

We would not find in your presence forgiveness, wellspring of a new beginning.

If you were not risen, where would we draw the energy for following you right to the end of our existence, for choosing you again and anew?

All: Let us worship the One who lives!

-Based on a prayer by Brother Roger of Taizé

Songs of Praise	"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"	#730
	"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God"	#746
	"Ten Thousand Reasons"	#559

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, you are our Shepherd, but we find it difficult to not want more. Instead of resting in green pastures, we are restless. Instead of following your lead to still waters, we stir the waters. As we walk through the valleys, our hearts are often overtaken by fear. Forgive us, Lord. In Jesus, you offer a feast of grace, more than enough to satisfy our souls. Through him, we look to your goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. For the same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead dwells within your people. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading	Psalm 5:1-8	Becca Paul
Time for Young Disciples		Chris Watkins
Scripture Reading	Luke 7:36-8:3	
Sermon	"The Woman Who Loved Much"	Pastor Matt

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” #665

Offering

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

“Know That God Is Good” #955

Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good. God is Good. God is Good.
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.
Halle, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Prayers of the People

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn “Glory, Glory Hallelujah” #710

Benediction

Postlude *Chorale* Mendelssohn

Leading in Today’s Service

Worship Leaders: Pastor Matt, Michael Rivers, Becca Paul

Pianist/Organist: Anna Nichols

Worship Music Team (varies): Beverly Brown, Jim Buckmaster, Pam Carnahan

Dick Chambers, Randy Schuchardt

Media Team (varies): Ruth Brown, Wayne Brown, Dan Cobb, Jody Cox, Bret Curtis, Dona Hair, Michele Haworth, Todd Haworth, Bruce McCloskey, Bonnie McCloskey, Barb Pappas, Bob Pappas, Dorita Reed, Paul Stutesman, Mark Wendt

Slides: Lauren Corder, Cathi Hughes

Today's Slideshow: Cake

Last Sunday's Attendance (5/11/25)

8:30 am - 60, 11 am - 49, Online - 20

Next Sunday's Worship--May 25, 6th Sunday of Easter

fpcpa.org/worship

Isaiah 55:10-13, *Luke 8:4-15; "An Abundance of Grace"

Although it is known as "The Parable of the Sower," we often interpret it as "The Parable of the Soils." Perhaps this is because Jesus explains the parable to his disciples by describing the different soils and how well they receive the seeds cast upon them. Another reason is that it is natural for us to want to respond to Jesus' teachings by taking some action, like preparing the soil of our lives so Christ can grow in us. This is reasonable and commendable, but let us not lose sight of the sower who sows generously, casting seed far and wide in preparation of an abundant harvest.

Announcements

Adult Sunday School, today, 9:45 am, Upstairs Classroom

Session, Monday, May 19, 7 pm, Hybrid: Zoom & in person

FISH Company, Tuesday, May 20, 8 am, Zoom

Deacons Meeting, Tuesday, May 20, 4pm, Fellowship Hall

Praise Team, Tuesday, May 20, 6:45 pm, Sanctuary

Women's Bible Study, Wednesday, May 21, 9 am, Fellowship Hall

Men's Chain Gang Breakfast, Wednesday, May 21, 9 am, Traylor's

Sunday Worship, May 25, 8:30 am and 11:00 am; Sunday School, 9:45 am

Office Closed, Monday, May 26 for the Memorial Day holiday.