

**The First Church of Christ in Marblehead
Old North Church, United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Jazz Sunday

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE Mark Shilansky, *piano*; Jeff Stout, *trumpet*; Dave Clark, *bass*

WELCOME

INTROIT (Please join in singing) *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* #467

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

Adapted from Psalm 96:1-3, 10-13 in the Inclusive Bible

One: Sing to God a new song!

All: Sing to God, all the earth!

One: Sing to God, bless God's Name!

**All: Proclaim God's salvation day after day;
Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvels to every people.**

One: The world stands firm and unshakable:
God will judge each nation with strict justice.

**All: Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice;
Let the sea roar and all that it holds!**

One: Let the fields exult and all that is in them!

**All: Let all the trees of the forest sing for joy
At the presence of God, for God is coming.**

One: God is coming to rule the earth—

All: To rule the world with justice and its people with truth.

* HYMN

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

#439

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Christine Hribar

One: Jesus invited his followers, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30) Our prayer of invocation today is a breath prayer, an ancient prayer practice where you silently repeat a phrase as you breathe in and out.

As you inhale, pray silently *“I bring you my burdens”*;
as you exhale, pray silently, *“I find rest for my soul.”*

LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

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 and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: We open ourselves to you, merciful God, knowing that we need not carry our burdens alone. We ask forgiveness, Holy One, for all we have left undone. We ask for you to save us from all that leads us astray, that weighs us down, that harms us and other. From fear a culture of despair:

All: Save us, God.

One: From fear and greed:

All: Save us, God.

One: From neglect of the earth:

All: Save us, God.

One: From distrust of others:

All: Save us, God.

One: From self-absorption:

All: Save us, God.

One: From jealousy and anger:

All: Save us, God.

One: Save us from all that weighs heavy on our hearts and minds.

We lift our confessions in the silence of this space.

SILENCE

One: Receive all our burdens, God, and replace them with your grace and your peace, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: Hear this good news:
the one who invited us to come and bring our burdens is faithful.

All: Christ shares our load, and gives rest for our souls.

One: We are forgiven and set free.

All: Thanks be to God!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

#437

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM *God Put a Rainbow in the Sky* African American Spiritual (1800's)

May you know that you belong here and can always come home.

May you grow, learn, and question.

May you feel the love of God wherever you go.

Children will remain with their families this morning to enjoy Jazz Sunday.

* HYMN

He's Got the Whole World

African American Spiritual

1. He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.
2. He's got the wind and the rain in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.
3. He's got the sun and the moon in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.
4. He's got the little bitty baby in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.
5. He's got you and me Brother in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.
6. He's got you and me Sister in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.
7. He's got everybody here in His hands...
He's got the whole world in His hands.

LISTENING

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 16:16-25

Andrea Gilgulin

One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe.” The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

ANTHEM

Yonder Come Day Trad. Georgia Sea Islands Spiritual

arr. Adam and Matt Podd

GOSPEL LESSON

Acts 16:25-34

Katharine Redmond

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

HYMN (Please remain seated and join in singing.)

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

(Instrumental Interlude between verses 2 and 3)

Verse 1

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Verse 2

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Instrumental Interlude

Verse 3

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

MEDITATION

“What Sets Us Free”

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus

arr. Moses Hogan

Anne Burgett, *soprano*

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING

MISSION MOMENT (Music Patrons Fund)

Dee Burgett

(Place envelopes in the offertory basket, or give online
by using the QR code under line item *Music Patrons*.
Your support helps provide music programs throughout the
year.)



OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Can't Carry These Burdens Alone

J. Parker/M. Barrett

Glory, Glory, (I feel Better)

arr. Podd Brothers

* DOXOLOGY #46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM (please be seated) *Climbin' Higher Mountains*

arr. Kirby Shaw

SENDING

* HYMN (Reprise/All)

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

S 18

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE (Please join in singing)

Refrain:

**(All): What the world needs now is love, sweet love.
It's the only thing that there's just too little of.
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,
No, not just for some, but for ev'vry one.**

(Solo): Lord, we don't need another mountain,
there are mountains and hillsides enough to climb.
There are oceans and rivers enough to cross,
enough to last till the end of time. **(Refrain)**

POSTLUDE Mark Shilansky, *piano*; Jeff Stout, *trumpet*; Dave Clark, *bass*

Soloists Anne Burgett, *soprano*; Holly Cameron, *mezzo-soprano*;
Kevin Hayden, *tenor*

Note to the Congregation:

We use the word “performance” when we refer to the final result of our preparation and rehearsal. Part of our inspiration for learning our music well comes, of course, from a desire to present it well to you, our public, but, beyond the performance aspect, our inspiration to devote such precious time and concentration, our willingness to do our personal best, our promise to leave our egos and personal concerns far, far away, and ultimately our pledge to think with and for those around us—comes from the satisfaction of working together to create an ensemble. The purpose of our performance, therefore, is not merely to entertain the audience, but to enlighten ourselves as an ensemble, by creating something much larger and more meaningful than each of us can do individually. At the same time, we hope to add our own meaning to the text and to the musical intentions of the composer. Singing (and ringing!) in a choir allows one to strive for and reach individual goals while collaborating with an entire group; it also provides fellowship, challenge, a wonderful sense of accomplishment, and ultimately, a sacred space for both performers and listeners. Beyond our own quite satisfying mission as described above, please know that we love to provide sacred music to you as listeners; without you there to receive our music, we are incomplete.

Heartfelt thanks to our music staff, volunteers and committee members for their tireless dedication to execute our music program, to our ministers and office staff, and to the congregation for your generous support.

*Gratefully Yours,
Maria*