

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

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**May 3, 2026**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00am**

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

One: God calls us together to worship.

**All: We are young and old, settled and unsettled,  
sometimes sure and sometimes full of doubts.**

One: Christ builds us up into a church.

**All: Christ gives us all a place to belong,  
to be challenged and comforted.**

One: The Holy Spirit is with us as we gather,  
and when we scatter.

**All: The Spirit fills us as we worship,  
and sends us out into the world as peacemakers and justice-  
bringers.**

One: Come, let us worship the God who is with us and for us.

\* HYMN

*Now in the Days of Youth*

#329

**CENTERING**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Rev. Christine Hribar

*from St. Augustine of Hippo (354 – 430 AD)*

**O God, full of compassion,  
I commit and commend myself to you,  
in whom I am, and live, and know.  
Be the goal of my pilgrimage,  
and my rest by the way.  
Let me soul take refuge  
from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought  
beneath the shadow of your wings.  
Let my heart, this sea of restless waves,  
find peace in you, O God. Amen.**

## THE 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

Rev. Christine Hribar

One: We gather knowing that God is Good and being human involves making mistakes.

**All: At times we go along with the crowd when we should stand by our principles.**

One: At times we hold silence when we should raise our voices.

**All: At times, we raise our voices when we should be listening.**

One: We crave fulfillment but look in the wrong places.

**All: We have so much and still desire more.**

One: We forget our neighbors even when bound in anxiety for the world.

**All: We value busyness over rest.**

One: We now hold silence to confess the ways we have fallen short.

*Silence*

One: We confess our brokenness to you, Loving God, all that we have spoken, all that is on our hearts, trusting in your love and living in your grace. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Let us share the good news:

**All: God's love flows to all corners of the world and right into this space. We live forgiven and set free. Amen.**

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (please join in singing)

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit One,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.**

## CELEBRATING

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND RITE OF CONFIRMATION  
INTRODUCTION AND COMMITMENT OF THE CONFIRMANDS

## PROMISE FROM THE CHURCH

**One:** As a sign of our shared desire to continue to grow as the members of Old North Church in Marblehead, let us join together in proclaiming our vision statement, using the words in the bulletin:

**All:** **Old North Church shall be an inclusive Christian Community called to bring to life God's love and grace by sharing the gospel for this time and place; extending the hospitality Christ showed; embodying God's love and compassion to those in need; and growing together in our understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst.**

### ACT OF BAPTISM

Holden Bishop  
Owen McCormick

### ACT OF CONFIRMATION

Holden Bishop  
Hudson Hammond  
Shannon Hurley  
Connor Jackson  
Owen McCormick  
Peter Watt

### WELCOME AND RECEPTION

**One:** Let us, the members of Old North Church, express our welcome and affirm our ministry together:

**All:** **We welcome you with joy as partners in the common life of this church. We give thanks to God for bringing you to us. We welcome the ways in which you will enrich, change, and challenge this church. We promise you our love, support, and care, come what may.**

### LISTENING

### MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Christine Hribar

**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 now go to Sunday school; they will return to sit with their families during communion.*

\* HYMN

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

#327

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

*All People That On Earth Do Dwell*  
Senior Choir

James Woodman

\* DOXOLOGY #48

**Praise God for love we all may share,  
Praise God for beauty everywhere,  
Praise God for hope of good to be,  
Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHORAL RESPONSE

FIRST READING

*Romans 12:9-18*

Read by Mark Adams

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

GOSPEL READING

*John 14:25-27*

Read by Mark Adams

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

SERMON

“What to Bring on the Journey” Rev. Lindsay Popperson

PASTORAL PRAYER

\* HYMN

*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

#318

## RESPONDING

### THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive communion at Old North—young and old, baptized and not.*

*There is gluten free bread on each tray, and we serve only non-alcoholic grape juice.*

*The Deacons will bring the elements to each row.*

*We wait until everyone is served, and then partake of the elements together.*

### INVITATION

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### OFFERING OF THE BREAD

*Pie Jesu (from Requiem)*

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Anne Burgett, *soprano*; Holly Cameron, *mezzo-soprano*; Senior Choir

### OFFERING OF THE CUP

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### SENDING

\* HYMN *Go Forth for God* #352

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE (please join in singing) #341

**Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
peace the world cannot give.**

**Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
so that your joy be ever full. Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

Maria vankalken, *organ*