

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Don Remick

One: We gather to worship the living Christ!

All: **We are chosen, holy, and beloved!**

One: We come to listen and to learn.

All: **We seek to be clothed in compassion, kindness, humility,
meekness, and patience.**

One: Above all, we gather to be enfolded in love.

All: **May our worship, our prayers, our singing, and our silence serve
to bind us together in perfect harmony.**

One: We come as disciples to be sent in service.

All: **Let us worship God!**

* HYMN

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

#355

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

—Adapted from a prayer from the Ethiopian Liturgy.

O God and Savior, who sent the disciples and apostles to the very ends of the earth to teach and proclaim your message, to heal all illnesses and to reveal the mysteries of the faith which have been hidden from humankind since the creation of the earth, send us your blessing and enlighten our understanding, and may we be given the gift of final perseverance. By your Spirit, enable us to do and to act in accordance with your commands as set out in the gospel, and may the fruit of the gospel be increased in us many times over. We ask in the name of the one who taught us to pray, saying:

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 (Unison)

Holy God, we know that we are to clothe ourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. We know that we should wear peace like a clasp, securing the cloak of love around our shoulders. Often we are altogether too absorbed in our own fashions, O God. We cast off compassion and kindness like last year's style, preferring to judge others. We consider humility and meekness as shame and weakness. We do not have time to be patient or to wait for your timing. And so we do not have peace, Holy One, and the love to which you call us is not evident to those around us. Forgive us! Help us to shed our selfishness and pride and put on the clothes of a disciple, so that your love and mercy will be visible to everyone we meet, and your peace will dwell in us. In the silence we bring our whole selves to you.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news. We have died with Christ and been raised with Christ, so we have set aside the old ways and put on new life. When Christ, who is our new life, is revealed, we also will be revealed in glory. Rejoice and give thanks!

* 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**

LISTENING

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

**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;
their families can meet them in the classroom when the service is over.*

* HYMN

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

#374

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28: 18-20

Read by Bonnie MacDonald

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

ANTHEM

You Walk Along Our Shoreline
Anne Burgett, *soprano*; Senior Choir

Sylvia Dunstan

SERMON

"Live Like A Disciple"

Rev. Don Remick

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

DISCIPLESHIP MOMENT

Roy Martin

RESPONDING

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Sheep May Safely Graze
Senior Choir

J.S. Bach

* 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

CHORAL RESPONSE

SENDING

* HYMN

Go Forth for God

#352

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE (please join in singing)

#334 verse 4

**Grant Us thy peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*