

Grace United Church of Christ

May 10, 2020
5th Sunday of Easter
Online Worship

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

CENTERING SONG Draw the Circle Wide
**Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side.
Draw the circle wide.**

SECOND LESSON Acts 7:55-60

MESSAGE *Drawing a Wider Circle*

OFFERING

Invitation
Dedication

MORNING PRAYERS

Pastoral Prayer
Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

SENDING HYMN O for a World

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus said, I go and prepare a place for you, and I will come again.

People: **We gather in this place to know your presence and your love, now and always.**

Leader: Jesus said, I am the way and the truth, and the life.
If you know me, you know God.

People: **We pray to know you more deeply, that we may know God more intimately, now and always.**

Leader: Jesus said, Ask me for anything, and I will do it.

People: **Help us to ask for the right things, Lord Jesus Christ, that we may fulfill your will, now and always.**

Leader: Jesus said, Believe in me, and Follow me.

People: **Help us to worship you fully believing and following – now and always!**

GATHERING HYMN

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

INVOCATION

FIRST LESSON

John 14:1-14

Scriptures for May 10, 2020

John 14: 1-14

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Gathering Hymn: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of our God and precious,
Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you,
Come, O God of Hosts, today!
With your constant, loving kindness
Hear your people as they pray.
Give your fullest benediction:
Grace to follow Christ the Way.

Here renew your servants' vision,
That by faith they may attain
Peace and hope, renewed compassion,
Strength to comfort those in pain,
Tears and grief transformed to gladness
In your everlasting reign.

Sending Hymn: O for a World

O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.

We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.