



Worship with Communion

6th Sunday of Easter – Mothers/Mother Figures

VIDEO: Participate on any device at 10AM on May 9, 2021

go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube

You can watch the videos at any time after their premier.

Welcome! We're glad you chose to worship with us today!

♪ **God of the Women Who Answered Your Call**

God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth—Give us their courage to live in your truth.
God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more—May we give freely as they did before.
God of the women long put to the test, Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?"—In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.
God of the women who ran from the tomb, Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day—May we so gladly proclaim you today.
O God of Phoebe and ministers all, May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near That we may share in your ministry here.

Words: ©1998 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, pub Gen Board of Discipleship, United Methodist Church. Tune: *SLAVE*, trad Irish.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People AMEN!

♪ **Gloria, Gloria**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Words: Trad, adapt Taizé Community Music: Jacques Berthier ©1979 Les Presses de Taizé/GIA Publ. All rights reserved.

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Eternal God, we thank you today for the relationships in our lives. We especially thank you for our family relationships. We are grateful for the love and nurture and joy that family life brings us. Yet we also acknowledge that our families sometimes bring us pain. So, we pray today for those who struggle with broken and strained family relationships. On this Mother's Day, we give you thanks for our mothers, for all they have done and continue to do in our lives. We pray for all mothers—help them, Lord, to be a blessing to their families. We pray for those whose mothers have died and who feel grief on this day. We also remember those who wanted to be mothers but could not be. And we pray for those who have been like mothers, spiritual or otherwise, in our lives. Most of all, God, we thank you for being like a good mother to us, showering us with love, compassion, forgiveness, and encouragement. We thank you and ask your blessings on our worship today, through Christ our Lord.

People **AMEN!**

First Lesson

Reader A reading of Acts chapter 10, verses 44 through 48.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Unison Reading

Reader Let us read in unison Psalm 98.

All Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory. O Lord, you have made known the victory; you have openly shown your righteousness in the sight of the nations. You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory, O God. Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice and sing. Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord. Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who is coming to judge the earth. In righteousness shall God judge the world and the peoples with equity.

New Testament

Reader A reading of 1 John chapter 5, verses 1 through 6.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Celebrant Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon**Nicene Creed**

Celebrant Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in**

accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN!

Prayers of the People

Reader Living On this day when we also remember mothers, let us offer our prayers to Jesus, the son of Mary. Because on this earth we are all sons and daughters of Eve, let us pray for the whole world and the church universal, that we might behold each other as sisters and brothers.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader As Rebecca gave birth to Jacob, and in so doing she gave birth to a whole nation, let us pray for our nation and state, and for all in authority.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader As Rachel's son Joseph was mistreated, beaten, and wrongly jailed, we pray for all in this world who are in trouble of any kind. We pray for the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the victims of war and all who live in terror's wake.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader As Hannah, the mother of Samuel, went to the House of the Lord to pray with earnest integrity, we earnestly pray for those in this community.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader As Naomi took Ruth into her home, we pray for those who act as surrogate, spiritual mothers. We pray with gratitude for all those who give the gift of love and nurturing.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader As Elizabeth gave birth in old age, and as she saw her son John the Baptist carried off to persecution, we pray for all those who are sick, those who are suffering, and those with any needs.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader And, as Jesus's mother, Mary, stood by the cross and watched her son die, we pray for the dead and dying.

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader We lift up all those on our prayer list, and others we remember now:

People **God of love and mercy: hear our prayer.**

Reader Lord Jesus, who wishes to gather your people as a mother hen gathers together her brood, we offer to you our prayers. Accept our gratitude for all who mother, bless all who mother, and give all mothers your comfort and strength. And help all of us, sisters and brothers, to be your family on earth, as we shall be in Heaven.:

All **AMEN!**

Reader Let us confess our sins to God.

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. AMEN!**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

All **O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

All **O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. AMEN!**

Celebrant To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

All **AMEN!**

Passing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Invitation to Communion

from the Iona Community, Scotland

Celebrant The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

♪ **Come, Celebrate the Women**

Come, celebrate the women who brought the Church to birth!
the gentle revolution that shall transform the earth:
whose faith was salt and leaven, whose hearts and minds were free,
and this was their direction—to peace and unity.

The teachers, saints, and mothers who lived and died unsung
kept safe the gospel story and taught it to the young;
the Christ child Mary cradled, the living Word to be
was crucified for pleading this peace and unity.

Daughters of the disciples, you weave the story still,
the fabric of the future with warmth and love and skill.
You make the bread of wholeness, the wine of harmony—
and all shall share your feasting in peace and unity.

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Offering Our Gifts

Celebrant Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate. We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

Celebrant Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

People **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son

Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord** Setting: from *Deutsche Mass*, Franz Schubert (1797-1828); arr Richard Proulx (b 1937).

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take. Eat. This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. AMEN!**

Breaking Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

♪ Lamb of God

Setting: from *Deutsche Mass*, Franz Schubert (1797-1828); arr Richard Proulx (b 1937).

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.

People In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. AMEN!

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. AMEN!

Blessing for Easter Season

Celebrant As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

Celebrant May Christ, who lives forever and is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this day and always.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

Celebrant And the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains, be upon you and all you love and pray for, this day and forever more.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

♪ **God, We See What You Have Given**

God, we see what you have given; signs of grace are everywhere!
 All around are gifts from heaven — gifts enough for all to share.
 We are stewards of your bounty, called to give as we've received;
 And your blessings have been plenty from the day we first believed.
 We are stewards of the richness that you send from heav'n above.
 For in Christ, you gave up greatness, humbly showing us your love.
 In a manger — gift from heaven! On a cross — with love and pain!
 You proclaimed we are forgiven; now you send us in your name.
 We are stewards of your welcome that you showed through Christ the Son.
 In his living and his teaching, Jesus welcomed everyone.
 To the outcast and the stranger, he showed hospitality!
 By your Spirit, may we also give the welcome we've received.
 We are stewards, sent out sharing, offering you our very best.
 Through our serving and our caring may we give as we've been blessed.
 God of love, may faithful living be much more than Sunday talk.
 Send us loving, serving, giving; Help us daily walk your walk!

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Sending

Celebrant Go forth sharing the Good News of God's love! Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.

There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate.

Mays special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.