

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



MAY 17, 2020

WELCOME

*We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!
If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME,
If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.*

Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters. A nursery is provided for younger children should you want to use it at any time. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon, Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!

Again welcome ...

PRE-SERVICE *Christians We Have Met to Worship* Adams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin.
Please note that all congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.*

We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

*Laudate Dominum
Trumpet Duet*

Mozart

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

We gather for worship in the name of the Father, and † of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,
you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!
The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds,
washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen,
casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride.
Jesus Christ loves you and † frees you from your sins by his blood.
To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!
Amen.

HYMN *We Are Marching in the Light of God* W&P 148



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

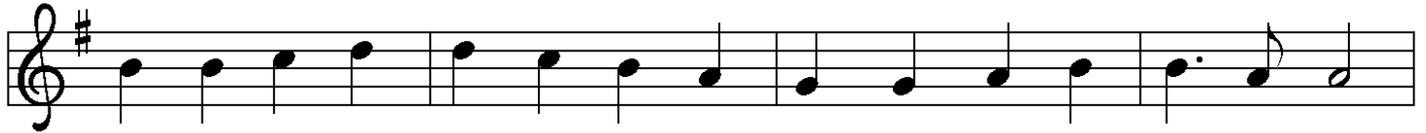
Additional stanzas ad lib.:
 We are dancing ...
 We are praying ...
 We are singing ...

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

READING: Acts 17:22-31

A reading from Acts.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and

imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC *How Can I Keep from Singing* Tomlin/Redman

READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from 1st Peter.

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at

the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my

commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.

Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

SERMON

If you love me...

HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631



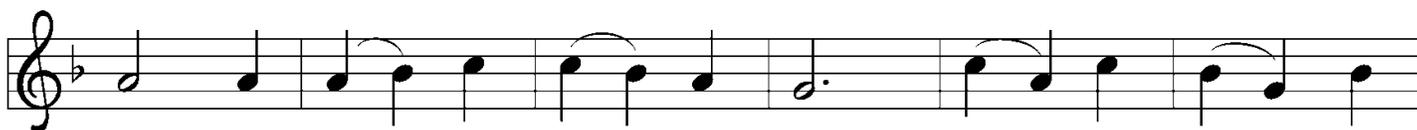
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

***On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*After each petition: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

The Prayers conclude:

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord
Amen.

We sit.

OFFERING

We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may contribute any time by visiting www.mthlc.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship. Please also take this time in worship to complete the pew registers.

OFFERING

Gospel Medley

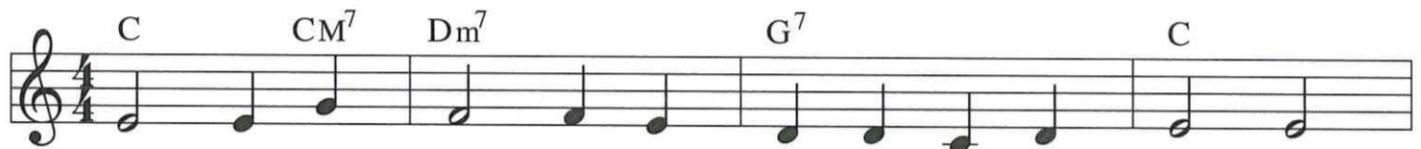
Adams

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Glorify Thy Name

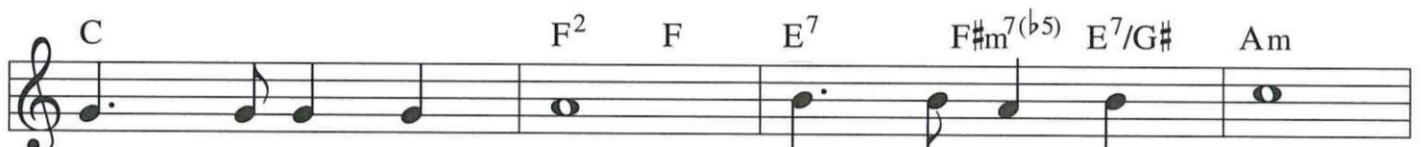
W&P 42



1 Fa - ther,
2 Je - sus, we love you, we wor - ship and a - dore you,
3 Spir - it,



glo - ri - fy thy name in all the earth;



glo - ri - fy thy name, glo - ri - fy thy name,



glo - ri - fy thy name in all the earth.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Feed us again with this meal in your name in the strength of the risen Christ. Amen.

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. The true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



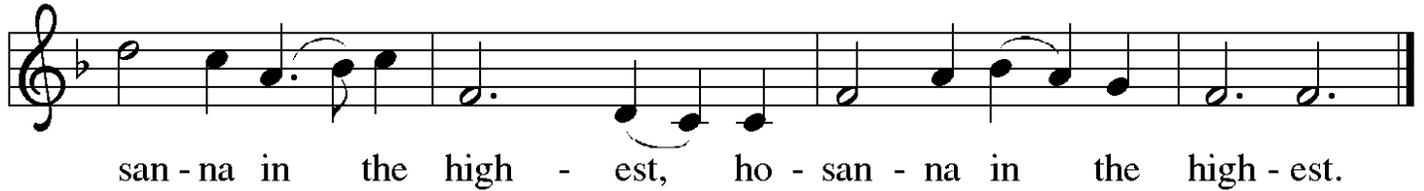
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed...

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life and we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We will distribute communion on the first and third Sundays in the church parking lot.

We will begin distribution immediately following worship and continue until 1:00.

We will distribute the host to you and your family. The family will commune each other

and then dispose of the paper bowl. **Please note that everyone will need to**

remain in their cars to receive communion.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



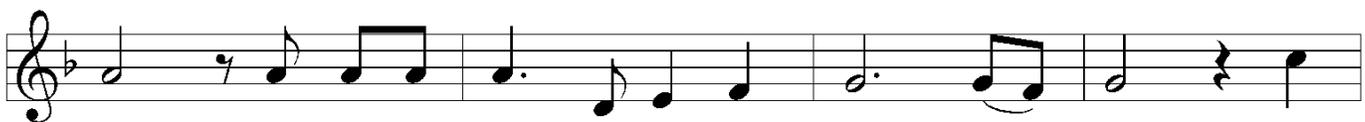
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

DISMISSAL

Christ is Risen! *He is risen, Indeed! Alleluia!*

MUSIC

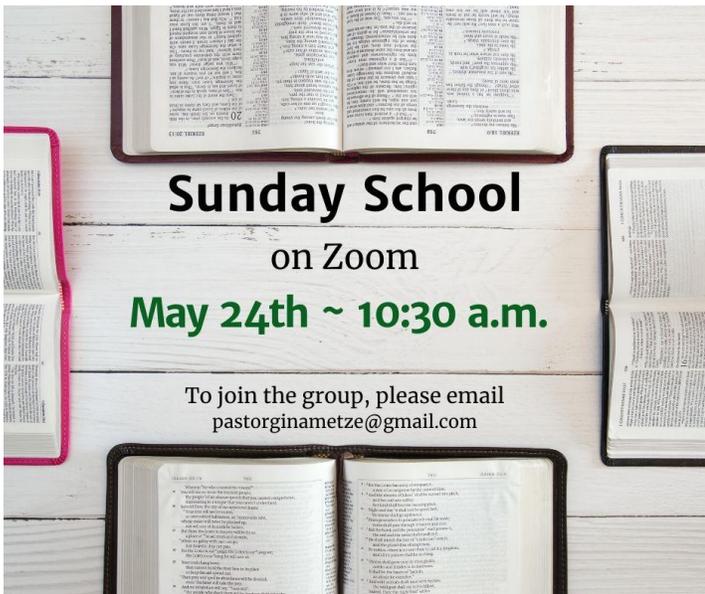
May the Lord Bless and Keep You

Sexton

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and Happy 85th Birthday to Rev. Everett Price. *Love, David, Scottie and Jacob.*

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS who lead worship: Regan Anthony, Daryl Leigh Anthony, Wynne Price, Joel Price, Ryan Price, Belle Kneece, and Noah Causey. Also, thanks to the **LIVE STREAM PRODUCTION CREW:** Sheila Starkey and Breanna Metze.



Tithes, and Offering for 05/10/2020
Live Stream Worship – 114+
Zoom Sunday School – 20
Drive-In Communion – n/a

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$6,113.69
Building Improvement	Received	\$860.00
Growing on Holy Ground	Received	\$1,440.00

Honorariums and Memorials (all funds)

In memory of Ernie Swygert by Barbara Corley, Annette Price, Jimmy & Wendy Watford

In memory of Doris Marsh, David’s mother, by Annette Price

In memory of my brother, Ernie Swygert by Carl & Juanelle Swygert

In memory of Marlene S. Bouknight and Wanda B. Judy by Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Bouknight



Tithe.ly Online Giving.
 You may download the Tithely app and select
 Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church 3011 Leaphart Road

Or you may give from our website at www.mthlc.com
 and select *Online Giving*
<http://www.mthlc.com/online-giving.html>

MT HERMON PRAYS ...

**everyone who has been affected by the virus and sickness*

Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, *Home*

Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens*

Hazel Bockus, *Carolina Gardens*

Lynwood Crout, *Home*

Tom & June Roof, *Home*

Margie Hook, *Home*

Lois Watson, *Lexington Place*

Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

Rev. Everette Price, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Alberta Berry

Parker Boulware

Connie Bucknam

Lila Catt

Gene Schofield

Jeff Bucknam, *deployed*

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Bob Eastwood, *brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley*

Harold & Mary Prater, *parents of Ray Prater*

Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*

Chuck Backman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*

Floyd Fuller, *uncle of David Marsh*

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*

Gary & Linda Hodgins, *friends of Herb & Connie Bucknam*

Lois Moore & family, *family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*

Bill Harrell, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*

Don Morris, *father of Keith Morris*

Cheryl Coureville, *friend of Herb & Connie Bucknam*

Mary Frances Hamilton, *friend of congregation*

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*

Jimmy Mills, *father of Tommy Mills*

Richie Tallent, *friend of Danny Scott*

Mandy McLemore, *co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price*

John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*

Jenifer Gooding, *co-worker of Joel Price Jr. & Mary Price*

Todd Hewitt, *friend of Missy Addy*

Sherri Crapps, *sister-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton*

Megan Sease, *granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease*

Jane Park, *friend of Pastor Gina & Dion*

Jean Wooten, *friend of Linda Waters-Hamilton*

Tommy Roof, *son of Tom & June Roof*

Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*

Eric Powell, *friend of Kim Fulmer*

Jason Wardlaw, *friend of congregation*

Dan Tinman, *friend of congregation*

Iris House, *mother of Debbie Fulmer*



www.WeAreMtHermon.com
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169
803.794.6430
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* 803.951.3784 PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com
Ruthie Brannen, *Director of Music* RuthieBrannen@gmail.com
Susan LaCons, *Parish Administrator* 803.794.6430 Susan@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Ronnie Fulmer, *President* Marion Leaphart, *Vice President*
Robin Ellisor, *Secretary* Parker Boulware, *Treasurer*
Annette Price, *Financial Secretary* Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, May 17th *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

11:00 - 1:00 Drive-up Communion

Wednesday, May 20th

9:00 – 12:00 Food Pantry

Friday, May 22nd

9:00 am – 12:00 Food Pantry

12:00 noon Sunday's Bulletins will be in the mailboxes

Sunday, May 24th *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

9:00 am Worship – Live Stream

10:30 am Sunday School via Zoom

If you participated in a previous Zoom Sunday School, you will automatically be sent a link each week. If you would like to join us, send an email to PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com and a link will be emailed to you.