



The Presbyterian Church on the Hill
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday
May 5, 2024

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

“God Is Love”

Anthony Murray

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annie Pantoja

To connect with us, please complete a Connect card and place it in the offering plate during the offertory.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Piper Ryan

We come to join with all the earth in praise:

to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.

We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills, people in every corner of the globe.

On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

we greet you with joy, our living God!

** Please stand, if you are able. Words in **bold text** are read or sung in unison.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. . .

Continue in silent prayers of confession until the liturgist says, “Amen.”

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends.
Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.
By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.
Let us live as God’s forgiven children. Alleluia! Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE - HYMN 587

“Alleluia”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE (responsive)

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Rick Degurski

Holy Spirit, help us to hear familiar words with fresh ears, and to take your Holy Word to us seriously, as guide and pattern for our lives. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children may come to chancel steps for a brief chat with Annie.

Childcare is available in the church office while the nursery is being renovated.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 5:1-6 (NRSVUE)

Rick Degurski

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 who 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING John 15:9-17 (NRSVUE)

Annie Pantoja

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"I Am a Friend of God"

Annie Pantoja

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Belhar Confession)

Rick Degurski

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a

variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another.

We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

- Give in person using the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary.
- Give online by visiting www.pcoh.church/give or use the Vanco Mobile App.
- Give by mail by check payable to The Presbyterian Church on the Hill”



OFFERTORY “There’s No God as Great”/”No Hay Dios tan Grande”

There's no god as great as you, O Lord,
O Lord, my God. x2

There's no god who works the mighty wonders,
all the wonders that you do. x2

Not by our weapons, nor by our power,
but by your Spirit we are led. x2

The Holy Spirit will move the church,
the Holy Spirit will move the church,
the Holy Spirit will move the church,
for by your Spirit we are led.

No hay dios tan grande como tú,
no lo hay, no lo hay. x2

No hay dios que pueda hacer las obras
como las que haces tú. x2

No es con espada, ni con ejército,
mas con tu Santo Espiritu. x2

Y esta iglesia se mover,
y esta iglesia se mover,
y esta iglesia se mover
con tu Santo Espíritu

* DOXOLOGY -

HYMN 609 “**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**” LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Rick Degurski

Generous God, we bring you our offerings today, and ask that you bless them. Bless the money in the plates that it might be saved, stewarded, and spent in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we will undertake this week that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week – 167 until we meet again – that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 . . . *prayer continues . . .*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

To partake in communion today, please come forward to receive a small piece of fresh bread from the first tray and an individual cup of grape juice from the second tray. If you prefer prepackaged servings, they are available in the first serving tray. You may partake of the elements immediately after receiving them or take them back to your seat. If you prefer not to come forward, servers will come to you.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION "Come, Share the Lord" arr. Fred Boch

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

* CLOSING HYMN

"Love Round"

Traditional

Love, love, love, love.

Amor, amor, amor, amor.

Christians, this is our call:

Ser cristiano es ser amor.

**"Love your neighbor as yourself,
for God loves us all."**

**"Amar a tu projimo como si mismo,
Dios es amor."**

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Love Round”

The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Serving Today

Host Team Captain and Co-Captain:

John Barrier

Communion Set/Clean-up: Tina Ellis

Greeters: John Barrier, Wilma Wright

Lights and Sound: Joseph & Maria Mora

Attendance: John Barrier

Trombone Soloist: David Furda

Vocalists: The Congregational Choir

Liturgists: Piper Ryan, Rick

Degurski

Nursery Volunteers: Jamie Montero,

Offering: John Barrier, Wendy Dutch,

Wally French

Fellowship Time: John Barrier, Wendy

Dutch, Jamie Montero

Flowers: Tina Ellis

THE WEEK AHEAD AT PCOH

Tuesday, May 7

11:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. - Lydia Circle

Wednesday, May 8

9:00 a.m. - Al-Anon

Thursday, May 9

6:30 p.m. - Youth Group

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Friday, May 10

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Moms & Babies

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. - Graying with Grace

Saturday, May 11

9:30 - 11:00 a.m. - Beacon Food Pantry

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE, GROW, SERVE

MISSION

Beacon Food Pantry is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11 a.m. To volunteer, sign up at the Mission table in the back of the sanctuary.

The Pentecost Offering is another Presbyterian Church (USA) annual special offering. Part of this offering (40%) will support young people locally. The rest (60%) will support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Give at pcoh.church or write checks to The Presbyterian Church on the Hill earmarked “Pentecost Offering.”

Date	Liturgical Day	Host Team	Captain/Co-Captain
May 12	Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension	Team 1	Diana Griffith
May 19	Pentecost/3rd Grade Bibles/ New Members Received	Team 2	Jeanette Liddy/Carol Cox
May 26	Trinity Sunday	Team 3	Michael and Robin Compoly

Pentecost Celebration - Sunday, May 19 - Bibles will be presented to third graders and we will welcome new members. There will be a Potluck Brunch in Fellowship Hall after worship and building tours to showcase the completed work. **Remember to wear red for Pentecost**, when divided tongues, as of fire, appeared above each disciple. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages!

LIFE
— after —
LOSS

“Life after Loss”- Loss is a universal human experience. We can lose friends, spouses, parents, and children. We can experience the loss of health, the loss of a job, or the loss of a future we had anticipated. Elder and Licensed Social Worker Janet Lee and Deacon and Stephen Minister Pat Lee

will facilitate a "Life after Loss" support group to help us process the experience of loss -- no matter what kind it is. Begins on May 8 and will meet two Wednesday mornings each month, 11 a.m - 12:30 p.m.through July. Other possible times are being organized as well. If you are interested in a Life after Loss group, complete a connect card or sign up online in the link in the Thursday email.

Vacation Bible School - “Start the Party” July 22-25 5:30-8 p.m.

For kids ages 3 and older Requested donation: \$10 per child or \$25 per family with three or more kids. Sign up at pcoh.church or scan the QR code.

To sign up to be a Volunteer Registration in the visit

<https://pcoh.church/upcomingevents>.



CHURCH STAFF

Julie D. Thompson-Barrier: Pastor
Dr. Jeff Unger: Director of Music and Organist
Meghan Pringle: Director of Spiritual Growth
Beth Ruzanic: Communications Assistant
Tom Connors: Sexton
Jon Galeros: Assistant Sexton
Troy Rubio: Audio-Visual Technician

ELECTED LEADERS

The Session

Rev. Julie Thompson-Barrier, Moderator
Kelli Tobin, Clerk of Session

Michael Compoly

Marilyn Dicken

Janet Lee

Jamie Montero

Lisa Phillips

Randy Stolze

Julie Thompson-Barrier

Jorge Tersy

Kelli Tobin

Megan Zarodnansky

Board of Deacons

Co-Moderators Diana Griffith and Jeanette Liddy

Kerry Ascione

Shirley Carle

Robin Compoly

Shari DeMarco

Wendy Dutch

Jonathan Galeros

Diana Griffith

Pat Lee

Jeanette Liddy

Diana Marsden

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