

May 17, 2026 – 7th Sunday of Easter  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**ORDER FOR WORSHIP**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship / Breath Prayer**

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

Let the righteous be joyful!

**Sing to God; sing praises to God's name;  
lift up a song to the one who rides upon the clouds.**

Listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

**Ascribe power to God, whose power is in the skies.**

**Opening Prayer**

**God of seekers and dreamers,  
speak to us now  
as we wait for your promised word.  
Protect your people, we pray.  
The road ahead may be long,  
but fill us with determination and courage.  
Teach us to be your body with faith and love,  
that we might serve one another  
as companions on the way,  
through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**Opening Songs – *It's a Good Day* – Peggy Lee**

*If I Had a Hammer* – Peter, Paul and Mary

**Children's Song – *Where Children Belong***

**This, this is where children belong,  
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.  
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:  
this is where children belong.**

**Children's Lesson and Prayer**

God of awe and wonder,

**God of awe and wonder,**

keep our hearts open

**keep our hearts open**

to the moments of joyous awe.

**to the moments of joyous awe.**

Keep our minds open

**Keep our minds open**

to the times of curious wonder,

**to the times of curious wonder,**

so that we come to experience

**so that we come to experience**

Your love for us and the world.

**Your love for us and the world.**

Amen.

**Amen.**

## **Celebration of High School Seniors**

Melayne Anderson  
Jackson Hile  
Lillian Holland

### **CONFESSING**

#### **Call To and Prayer of Confession**

**Christ our Savior,  
as you ascended,  
you left the work to us.  
You called us to keep  
the movement going,  
to witness to the ends of the earth,  
to pray, to heal, to glorify you  
through our thoughts,  
words, and deeds,  
to show the world a glimpse  
of the goodness you have given us.  
We have fallen short of this call.  
We have hidden ourselves in fear,  
sought our own comfort,  
and resigned ourselves  
to the status quo.  
Forgive us.  
Strengthen us to do your will,  
that we may be signs  
of your coming reign.**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

##### **Response No. 447 – *We Are Forgiven***

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

#### **Passing the Peace of Christ**

### **LEARNING**

#### **Good Shepherd Sunday**

**Anthem – *He Never Failed Me Yet* – Robert Ray**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lesson – *John 17:1-11* (NRSVue)**

#### **Sermon**

## RESPONDING

**\*Hymn of Response No. 740 – Lead Me, Guide Me**

**Lead me, guide me, along the way,  
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**I am weak and I need your strength and power  
to help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness your face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**Lead me, guide me, along the way,  
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**Special Recognition – Matthew Payton**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

**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 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.**

**Offering**

**\*Doxology No. 606 – *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Great God, with gratitude we bring our gifts to you.  
Bless us and our gifts,  
that our lives and our resources  
may be a source of healing and hope,  
of joy and justice in our world. Amen.**

## SENDING

\*Sending Hymn No. 307 (vs. 1, 3, 4) – *God of Grace and God of Glory*

1 God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the gift of thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Lora East, Pastor  
EJ Balreira, Acolyte  
Zachary Esman, Liturgist  
Cindi Catlin Gaskins, Director of University Presbyterian Children's Center  
Josh Clapp, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
Melanie Valdez, Sandy Stout, Christopher DeLeon,  
Speakers from University Presbyterian Children's Center  
Christian Carpenter, Media Technician  
Gary Marks, Organist / Pianist  
Keith Martinez, Director of Choral Music  
Nicholas Dimick, Director of Children's Choir  
The UPC Children's and Adult Choirs  
Laurie Doyal-Lampman & Russell Lampman and Jim & Paula Gentner, Greeters

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Liturgy from the *Call to Worship Journal* for May 17, 2026.