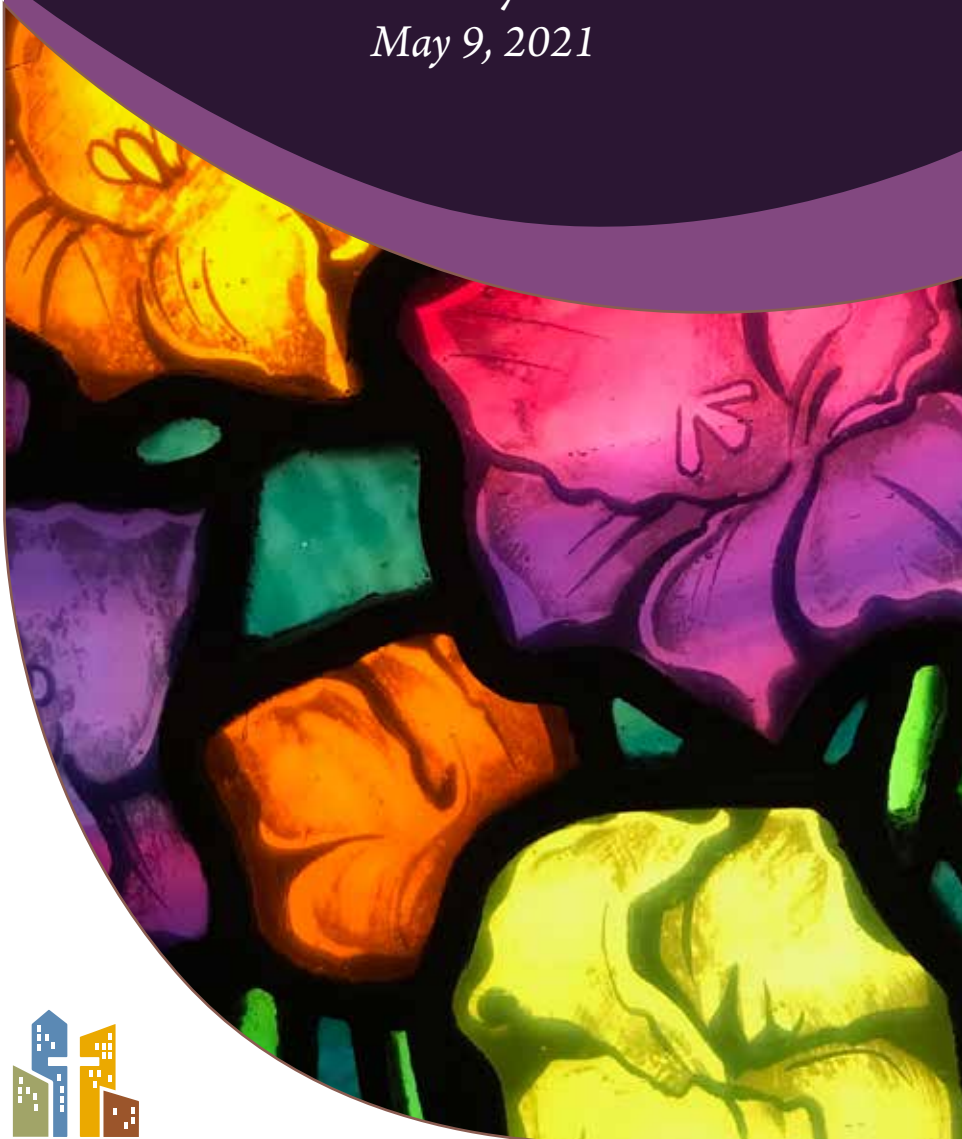


A Personal Worship Experience from
First (Park) Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR MAY 9, 2021
PERSONAL WORSHIP EXPERIENCE @ PARK CHURCH

GATHERING

Gathering Music and Centering Prayer

Phyllis Ann Miner, piano

Pastorale

Marcel Grandjany (1891-1975)

*Giver of every good and undeserved blessing,
Once again, we unwrap with expectation the gift of this place;
This house formed by human hands, but filled with God;
This center of healing, love and shared life.
We thank You, Generous God, for the gift of this place.*

*Once again, we embrace with hope the gift of this time;
These sacred seconds called from our brief lives,
and filled with eternity;
This momentary joining of journeys.
We thank You, Generous God, for the gift of this time.*

*Once again, we join ourselves with You
and with each other through our worship;
Through these prayers and these praises;
Through these lives and their love.
And wrapped in this time and this place
We make of ourselves a gift to You.
May this offering fill Your heart with joy as we rejoice in You.
Amen.*

Greeting and Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Patrick Coyle

Prelude

Steven B. Smith, organ
Siciliana on "The Call"

Douglas E. Wagner / Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death*

*Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joys in love*

Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Tune: NETTLETON
(recorded April 23, 2017)

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.*

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Patrick Coyle

PROCLAMATION

Anthem

The Chancel Choir

Set Me As a Seal

René Clausen

(recorded November 1, 2019)

*Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.*

*Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.*

*Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.*

The Psalm

Carol Gess, Liturgist
Psalm 98

Prayers of the People/Our Savior's Prayer

Rev. Barbara Schreur

The Gospel Reading

Carol Gess, Liturgist
John 15:9-17

Sermon

Rev. Barbara Schreur

Response

Steven B. Smith, organ
Fairest Lord Jesus
Robert A. Hobby

Anthem

The Chancel Choir
Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace
John Rutter

BENEDICTION

Closing Hymn

There is a Wideness in God's Mercy

Tune: IN BABILONE

(recorded November 1, 2019)

*There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.*

Our Common Commission

Rev. Dr. Patrick Coyle

Let us now go forth into the world in peace; being of good courage; holding fast to that which is good; rendering to no one evil for evil; strengthening the faint hearted; supporting the weak; helping the afflicted; honoring all people; loving and serving the Lord and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Postlude

Steven B. Smith, organ

Recessional in C

John S. Dixon



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Dr. Patrick Coyle, worship leader, minister of music

Rev. Barbara Schreur, guest preaching minister

Carol Gess, liturgist

Steven B. Smith, principal organist

Phyllis Ann Miner, music associate, piano

The Chancel Choir

An Open and Affirming Congregation

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

As Jesus demonstrated by his life and teachings, we fully value and welcome all people into the life of Park Church, regardless of beliefs or doubts, age, color, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical, mental, or emotional ability, or economic status. In fact, we value and celebrate the rich diversity of all God's creation.

Our Vision

To build a community of relentless compassion
and courageous hope where all are seen and known, and
the God of extravagant love is revealed.

10 E Park Pl NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

616-459-3203 / office@parkchurchgr.org / www.parkchurchgr.org
www.facebook.com/parkchurchgr

OFFICE HOURS

M-F from 8:30-4:00 (hours vary at this time)