

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

## **WE GATHER IN CELEBRATION**

### **Prelude**

*From All That Dwell Below the Skies*  
Arr. Mark Hayes

### **Opening Sentences**

One: This is the day that God has made!

Many: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### **Centering Words**

### **Opening Song**

*Canticle of the Sun*  
*Congregation will sing refrain only*  
Words and music on page 5

Hans Ericson, *soloist*

### **Call to Worship:**

One: Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

Many: **We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.**

One: Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

Many: **Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.**

One: Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

Many: **We will tell of the joy and of the love, of the peace and of the hope which is ours! Amen.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ is with each of you.

Many: **And also with you!**

*Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

### **Children's Moment**

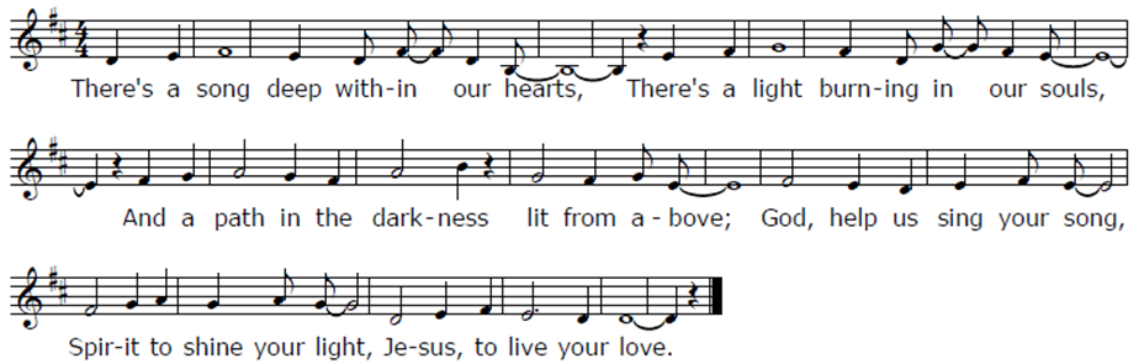
Rev. Karma Cloud

### **Offertory**

## **WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS**

### **Sung Call to Prayer**

*Deep Within Our Hearts*



There's a song deep with-in our hearts, There's a light burn-ing in our souls,  
 And a path in the dark-ness lit from a -bove; God, help us sing your song,  
 Spir-it to shine your light, Je-sus, to live your love.

### Prayers of the People

**Response:** One: God in your mercy,  
 Many: hear our prayers.

### Lord's Prayer

**ALL:** Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name.  
 Your kin-dom come.  
 Your 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 Yours is the kin-dom,  
 and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### Sung Response to Prayer

*Alleluia*



1 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WISDOM

### Scripture Reading

### Psalm 66:1-12

1Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; 2sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise. 3Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! 4All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."

5Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals. 6She turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There we rejoiced in him, 7who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations— let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

8Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of her praise be heard, 9who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. 10For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. 11You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; 12you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

One: May God's wonder be revealed to us through the mystery of these words.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

### Sermon

"The Rhythms of Joy"

Rev. Ann Ralosky

### Anthem

*Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love*

By Aaron Keyes, Keith Getty, Matt Papa and Luke Brown  
arr. Joseph Martin

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD

### Announcements

### Sabbatical Send Off Moment

Elaine Wells, Moderator

### Pastors' Promises

### Congregation's Promises

Many: **Rev. Ann,**  
**We bless you as you take this time to renew your spirit.**  
**While you are away, we will renew ours by being present**  
**within this community, participating in worship and**  
**supporting the life of this congregation with joy.**

**Rev. John, we promise to support your leadership with our time and talent as we live into our covenant of shared ministry in the church.**

**And in the weeks ahead, we promise to listen for the calling of God in our hearts, honoring the Sabbath in our own lives.**

**With each passing day, may the grace of God lead you on paths of wonder, reconnection and discovery.  
And may you return to us safely, with your heart and soul refreshed and joyful. AMEN.**

**Sabbatical Poem**

Derek Polzer

**Closing Music**

*Canticle of the Sun (verses 4 & 5)*

**The Closing Commission**

**One:** The spirit of God is upon us.

**Many:** **God has anointed us**  
to bear good news to the afflicted,  
to bind up the broken hearted,  
to proclaim freedom to the captives,  
to open the prisons of those who are bound.  
Let us go forth in the name of Christ to bring  
peace into broken relationships, healing to  
alienated persons, action to protect our planet,  
and justice into oppressive structures. **AMEN.**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Morning Awakenings: Variation V (Finale)*  
By James Michael Stevens

# Canticle of the Sun

Words and Music by  
Marty Haugen



The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, \_\_\_ and



all cre - a - tion is shout-ing for joy. \_\_\_\_\_ Come,



dance in the for - est, come, play in the field, \_\_\_ and sing,



sing to the glo - ry of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

## SERVICE NOTES

*Thank you to our volunteer worship leaders this morning.*

**Worship Leaders:** Rev. Ann Ralosky and Rev. John Rogers

**Reader:** Samantha Soto-Schwarm

**Ushers:** Rev. Heather Cherrey and Teya Eaton

**Coffee Hour Co-Hosts:** Rebecca Dahmen, LynNell Hancock, Linette Rosado, Connor Vallee, and Pier and Gary Villanueva

**Coffee Hour Setup Team:** Michael Harney, Steve Cutaia and Tim Duhamel

**Music Leaders:** Julie Morgan and David Salyers

**FCC Band:** Jania Bibighaus, Hans Ericson, Aaron Krauza, Ray Lenzini  
and Dean Tarriff

**AV Tech:** Jason Jimson and Ruben Ruiz Salazar

*An anonymous donation has been made to to food bank to help feed the hungry.*

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Rev. Ann Sabbatical Send Off Sunday Worship, May 10, 10:30am**

Please join us for Rev. Ann's last Sunday before she leaves on her 11 week sabbatical.  
She will return on Sunday, August 2.

## **Ongoing Events**

### **Weekly Wednesday Labyrinth Walks 11am—1pm (Last walk will be June 24)**

Each Wednesday our labyrinth is open for spiritual walking. No experience necessary!

### **The Searcher's Bible Study on Zoom each Thursday Eve at 7pm**

***(Last session will be June 25)***

FCC member, Rev. Victor Peterson, will lead an engaging exploration of our scriptures each Thursday evening on Zoom.

### **"Women of a Certain Age" - FIRST Fridays, 11am-1pm in the FCC library**

***(Last meeting May 1st)***

We are a group of women, roughly over the age of 65, maybe retired, who gather for conversation and friendship. Questions? See Rev. Heather Cherrey, or email her at [revcherrey@optonline.net](mailto:revcherrey@optonline.net).

### **Underground Church—May 16, 10:30am in the Sanctuary —**

**Usually meets every third Saturday — (Last session will be June 20)**

An intimate and interactive worship experience that hearkens back to the early church.

### **Full Spectrum Spirituality (FSS) LGBTQ+ Gathering**

We chat about life, spirituality, and whatever else comes up! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Jordan at [fullspectrum@fccmtc.com](mailto:fullspectrum@fccmtc.com).

### **DATE CHANGE: Next Green Team Ministry Meeting, Wed. May 13, 7pm on Zoom**

***(Usually 2nd Sundays 12-1pm in the FCC Library)***

Please email [greenteam@fccmtc.com](mailto:greenteam@fccmtc.com) for more information and Zoom link.  
Learn about FCC's climate justice initiatives & live your faith by taking action for the planet.

***For more details check the calendar on our "Upcoming Events" page:***

***<https://fccmontclair.org/upcoming-events-at-fcc/>***

**You can make a donation or sustaining gift online at any time!**

There are many ways to give to FCC each Sunday. You can easily set up your sustaining gift, your Sunday Offering, or a one-time contribution ...using our new Church Center service.

**ONLINE:** Scan the QR Code below or go to <https://fccmtc.churchcenter.com/giving>

**CHECK:** If you give by check it must be made out to "First Congregational Church," (*not "FCC"*) and can be put in the offertory basket, or mailed to:  
40 So. Fullerton Avenue, Montclair, NJ, 07042. *Thank you.*

