



**11:15**

**Worship**

April 28, 2023  
Monteith Hall

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1432 WASHTENAW AVE | ANN ARBOR, MI 48104  
FIRSTPRESBYTERIAN.ORG

# WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 • 11:15 AM

*\* When this symbol precedes an element of the service,  
please rise in body or spirit.*

## GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WELCOME & CENTERING

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

from *enfleshed*

Side A: *What miracles of God might unfold among us?*

Side B: **We gather in shared hope and possibility**

Side A: *Concerned with exploitation of land and  
people*

Side B: **We are weary with empire's greed**

Side A: *In faith, we trust the Spirit is with us*

Side B: **There will be a breaking open**

Side A: *Let the people come together in solidarity of  
struggle*

Side B: **God will rise among us.**

\*OPENING HYMN #404 "What Is This Place"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Written by Rev. Beth Merrill Neel

**O Lord, you are our shepherd, and yet we want.**

**We lie down when we could act,**

**We stir the pot when we could offer peace,**

**We wander tempting paths instead of  
following you.**

**We see courage and comfort in earthly  
things rather than in you.**

**We hate our enemies and refuse to break  
bread with them,**

**We see scarcity even when you offer us  
abundance.**

**We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness  
and mercy,**

**So that we might dwell in You, in your  
grace, forever. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

CONGREGATIONAL "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"  
RESPONSE #582

Glo-ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has  
World with-out end, with-out end, A-men, world with-out end, with-out

par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, whose love has set me free; as it  
end, A-men, world with-out end, with-out end, A-men.

was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be. A-men.

PASSING OF THE PEACE What is one thing you could never have too much of? As we share signs of peace with one another, you are invited to share your answers as well.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR "Spirit of the Living God"  
ILLUMINATION #288 **Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me**  
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.**  
**Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2 Kings 4:42-44  
John 6:1-14

SERMON "Holy Abundance"

RESPONSE

RESPONSE ACTIVITY Pick up a paper leaf or flower (or both!) and write down some way that you see your faith growing and producing fruit for yourself and others. When you are ready, add it to the tree.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
& 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.**

## SENDING

CLOSING HYMN #250 "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

\*BENEDICTION ...we go out in peace, **to love, to serve, to imagine.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY



### ACTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Sharing is caring! Think of something you have an abundance of (not necessarily a tangible good, could be a set of fun facts, a skill, or something you are no longer using!) and see if you can find someone for whom it could be helpful.
2. This story of the feeding of the crowd is a little bit different in each Gospel. Read the other versions (Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:31-44, Luke 9:12-17) and see what jumps out at you!
3. As spring unfolds around us, look for flowers, leaves, or other new growth that help remind you of God's love for you. Share a photo with a friend!



### WAYS TO GIVE

Your gift allows us to carry out our mission as an inclusive and diverse faith community.

**CASH/CHECK:** Place in the offering plate on your way out or in the mail

**ONLINE:** <https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

**TEXT-TO-GIVE:** Text the amount to 855-904-1523



*Thank you for helping to re-set the chairs in six rows of six chairs on each side of the middle aisle.*