

English Settlement United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 Service at 9:00 a.m.

Welcome! We are pleased you chose to worship with us today. May you experience the peace of God's love as we worship together and throughout the week.

(* Indicates the congregation standing. (If you are able.)

PRELUDE / INTRODUCTION

*OPENING HYMN: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling UMH #384

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

People: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

People: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

People: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

People: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another.

Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER:

Leader: For all the blessings of this life, we give thanks to You, Creator God. For families, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers, who nurture us, that the love of God may grow within. That Your love, your Word, like a seed, may grow to produce in us, good fruit.

People: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

Leader: For the leaders of various nations and cities, that they may lead with strong hearts and gentle hands and generous spirits, with compassion and mercy, with wisdom and grace. May they reflect your will guiding all their actions and decisions.

People: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

Leader: For those who serve in harm's way, those who live in dangerous places, those who live in areas of war and strife, those who live in fear, those who worry about employment, bills, food, and struggle just to find dignity in life. May your grace bring peace and safety to all people, one to another.

People: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

Leader: For those who suffer from any illness or dis-ease—of mind, body, or spirit. Restore these, and all those we carry in our hearts, to fullness of health—health as only you, O God, can bring. May your mercy shower each of us with healing mercy and love.

People: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

Leader: For those who are dying, and for those who have died. Send forth your comforting love. Give solace to those who mourn. Console those who grieve. May your grace surround us like a mantle upon our heads, a shawl upon our shoulders, a hand, to hold our hand.

People: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong. Amen

Scripture Readings: Acts 8:26-40
I John 4:7-21
*John 15:1-8

Message: Sandy Schimek will be our speaker this week.

***Hymn:** “Abide with Me” UMH #700

VIP

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

TEACHING MOMENT

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH #95

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts today, we reflect on the wisdom in the words from John’s gospel. In this imagery, we recognize our role as branches, connected to you, the source of our strength and vitality. Help us stay rooted in your love, producing fruit that brings glory to your name. May these gifts signify our commitment to abide in your teachings and work joyfully in response to your love. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN:** “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” UMH #402

***BENEDICTION:**

Leader: Beloved children of God, love one another well.

People: We will abide in Christ’s generous love.

Leader: Be born in the Spirit of grace.

People: We will live in the fullness of hope.

Leader: Grow into branches bearing the fruit of love: peace, joy, hope, faith.

People: We will remember that the greatest harvest is the harvest of love.

Let us remember to lift each other in prayers, especially those with family or friends with serious illnesses.

Birthdays & Anniversary’s This coming week.

Birthdays: Robert HENSGEN (69), John SQUIRE (69), Sandy SCHIMEK (69), Carly SMITH, (32)

Anniversaries: BOCKWOLDT, Stanton & Gail (10)

Current Missions and Events

Upcoming Events:

ENGLISH SETTLEMENT CHURCH

- Monday May 20th - 6:00pm Ad Board Meeting

BURLINGTON CHURCH

- Tuesday April 30th - 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study
- Tuesday April 30th - 1:30 p.m. Crocheting with Bev
- Burlington Church has activities going on if you are interested. [Home - Burlington United Methodist Church \(burlingtonumc.org\)](http://Home - Burlington United Methodist Church (burlingtonumc.org))

****Adding or updating your Family Information**

To add or update your Family Information - Please download the following form on our Website: [!\[\]\(a73c1962d20a39dd8fd6a060ae69693f_img.jpg\) **MemberInfoUpdate.pdf**](#)

Enter your family information and return it in one of the following ways.

1. Email copies for your family and each family member to: [**englishsettlementchurch@gmail.com**](mailto:englishsettlementchurch@gmail.com)
2. You may also include a family photo if you would like or ask me to take a photo at Church to include in our Church Directory.
3. Bring copies to Church and give to Bryan Scott

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English Settlement United Methodist Church believes in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; faith in the belief of salvation through Jesus Christ; and the celebration of the sacraments Baptism and communion.

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