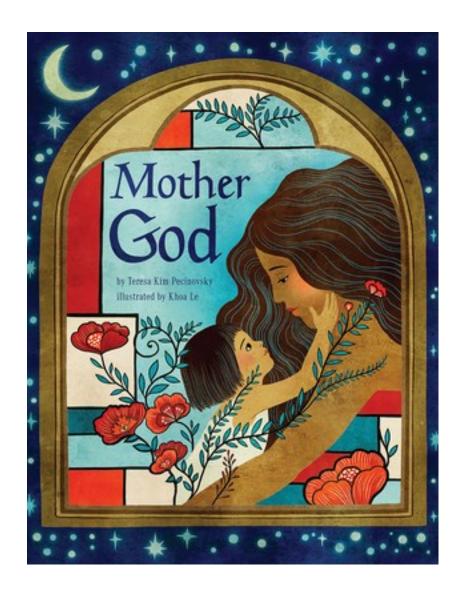
Peace United Church of Christ May 11, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 10:30am



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Prelude Tent Show Band

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Ringing of the Bells

*Call to Worship

Tender and fierce, challenging and loving, God comes to us in many ways.
Potter and clay, vine and branch, hen and chicks, God is made known to us in many images.
Goodness and mercy, healing and new life, God brings us blessings beyond measure.
This is the day our God has made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*Song

My Shepherd Is the Living God

#247 NCH

My shepherd is the living God, I therefore nothing need; In pastures fair, near pleasant streams you settle me to feed. You bring my wandering spirit back when I forsake your ways, And lead me for your mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay; A word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away. Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread; My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others come and go— No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

*Prayer of Confession

Good and gracious God, you love us exactly as we are and you love us too much to let us stay this way. We have done things we ought not to have done, and we have left undone things we ought to have done. Forgive us, transform our hearts, and remember us as your resurrection people. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, hear the good news. There is nothing we can do or leave undone to separate us from the love of God. **Through Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere! Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

Georgia Lane, reader

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters,

he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long

Anthem

23rd Psalm, Bobby McFerrin

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Teresa Kim Pecinovsky

Song

Bring Many Names

#11 NCH

Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate, in parable and story, holiness in glory, living, loving God. Hail and Hosanna! bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day, planning all the wonders of creation, setting each equation, genius at play: Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child, feeling all the strains of human living, caring and forgiving till we're reconciled: Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Old, aching God, grey with endless care, calmly piercing evil's new disguises, glad of good surprises, wiser than despair: Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move, saying no to falsehood and unkindness, crying out for justice, giving all you have: Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness far beyond our seeing, closer yet than breathing, everlasting home: Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

Community Prayers and Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sung Amen

Offertory

Kentucky Waltz

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song

How Can I Keep from Singing

#476 NCH

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing; It finds an echo in my soul - how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Love commands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells ringing; When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing? In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging; When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it; And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; All things are mine since I am Christ's - how can I keep from singing?

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:

Lynn Kaim and Oliver Cushenberry, Greeters
Pam Kramer, Laurie Berner, and Cindy Macaulay, Ushers
Elise Westbrook and Koren Sjelin, Nursery Attendants
Phyllis Cook, Harriet Crofts, Rebecca Holmstrom, and Julie Flotten & Allison Wood, Coffee Hour
Volunteers