

SUGAR CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, May 3, 2026 ∞ Fifth Sunday of Easter ∞ 10:30 AM

❖ Those who are able, please stand.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING MUSIC

Pavane

William Byrd

WELCOME AND SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Rev. Amy Duiker

INVITATION TO SILENCE

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Pam Schultz, liturgist

We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God, we need only to look around:

within ourselves,

beyond ourselves,

into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,

we need only listen to the music of life,

the words of children,

the questions of the curious,

the rhythm of a heartbeat.

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

❖ HYMN

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

GtoG #248

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Almighty God, You have set before us the path, but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way. Sometimes we are like toddlers and we hear Your call and come back. Other times, we are children testing boundaries, ignoring Your call until fear finally makes us look back. And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion, demanding to be cut loose and set free, not knowing how much we still need to seek Your wisdom and guidance. But most of all, too often we think we are adults and have figured it all out and know our own way, only to stumble and stray so far. Remind us, parental God, that we are always Your children, that we are never fully grown up in Your sight, that we always have much to learn. Help us to seek You every day, to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance, and help us to return to the path and walk with You. In the name of Christ, who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray.

SILENT CONFESSION

A time for self-examination and silent prayer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (RESPONSIVE)

From the fullness of Jesus Christ, we have all received, grace upon grace. The Son, who is close to the Father's heart, has made him known to us and has given us power to become children of God. **Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and given life through him.**

❖ GLORY TO GOD

Thine Is the Glory

GtoG #238 v3

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

❖ PASSING OF THE PEACE

Liturgist: The peace of the risen Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

"We Are the Church of God"

David Angerman & Jon Paige

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 17:16-31

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

So That Others May Know

Rev. Amy Duiker

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO SILENCE

❖ HYMN

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

GtoG #11

❖ STATEMENT OF FAITH (UNISON)

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Worshippers are invited to speak their name and briefly share joys and concerns as we pray with and for one another.

After each request, the pastor will say: Lord, in your mercy.

*The congregation responds: **Hear our prayer.***

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO THE WAY OF JESUS

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *Improvisation*

Stephen Estep

❖ DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (GtoG #240, v2)

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD IN THE WORLD

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|--------------------|--|--------------|
| ❖ HYMN | <i>Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies</i> | GtoG #662 |
| ❖ SUNG BENEDICTION | <i>Goodness Is Stronger than Evil</i> | GtoG #750 |
| ❖ POSTLUDE | <i>Glory to God on High</i> | George Blake |

The Call to Worship was a Peacemaking resource of the PC(USA), found on pcusa.org.

The Prayer of Confession is from Rev. Mindi's Rev-o-lution blog.

Do you need prayer?

One of our members gifted in praying for others will be in the Archives Room just off the back of the sanctuary immediately after worship. They will be available to pray with individuals or a small group about whatever is on your heart. If you'd like prayer, come to the Archives Room immediately after worship ends. If the door is closed, someone is already receiving prayer and our "designated prayer" will invite you in shortly.

All prayers are confidential.

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Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8:30 am—4:30 pm





Our last GIFT Fellowship until fall, will be on May 13th.

It is a fun filled time of fellowship, faith formation, and food! ALL are welcome!

A donation of \$5 per week (\$20/family) is suggested but not required. Come for trivia, games, and a cookout. All ages are welcome!

**GIFT Intergenerational Summer Camp
June 1-4 , 5:45-7:45 pm**



Join us for **Appreciate These Things**, a four day gathering inspired by *Appreciate These Things: Eight Ways of Cultivating Compassion* by Jill J. Duffield and grounded in the call of Philippians 4:8 to dwell on what is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent, and praiseworthy.

We'll share food, fellowship, faith formation, and fun as we explore these qualities through scripture and in our own lives. Sign up on the blue sheet or email Erin.

We have great news! Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening event on June 19, 2026. Life Line Screening is extending a discounted offer to all Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church members.

Please call the telephone number below to schedule an appointment.

Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment near you! **800-324-9458** and use code: **HABC001**





Join us for our **spring workday on Saturday, May 9th, from 10:00 AM to noon** as we spruce up the church inside and out. Building & Grounds will provide supplies for indoor projects, and outdoor volunteers are welcome to bring tools like rakes, pruners, tarps, or blowers. Wear old clothes and come lend a hand—just a couple of hours makes a big difference in caring for our building. If you'd like to get even more involved, the Buildings & Grounds (B&G) commission is looking for new members and helpers for occasional projects. Contact Tom Milligan or Terry Mundhenk if you're interested.

Presbyterian Women's Tea

All women of the church are warmly invited to a **special Women's Tea following worship on Sunday, May 31, 2026.**

This will be a relaxed time to gather, get to know one another, ask questions, and begin listening together for how God may be calling Presbyterian Women at Sugar Creek to serve.

Please come and bring a friend.

Please sign up on the back of the blue sheet insert.



Graduate & Retiree Sunday– May 17th!

Plan to join us in worship on Sunday, May 17th as we celebrate those in our church family reaching meaningful milestones this year. We will honor all graduates, retirees, and scholarship recipients during the service, and we'd love to include them in a special slideshow that morning. If you or a loved one would like to be featured, please send **10–20 digital or scanned photos via email**—ideally from a variety of ages—to Erin **no later than today.** After worship, stay for refreshments as we continue the celebration together.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

11 Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud



1 Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
 2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
 3 Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De - fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
 Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
 Com - fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er - gies that nev - er tire:



May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name



but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.



These scriptural names and images of the Triune God express a theological view reinforced by the structure: the stanzas deal, in turn, with each Person of the Trinity and the refrain affirms their unity. The swirling patterns of the Welsh tune add much energy to the text.

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies 662



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
 joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer - cy's beams I see;
 fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;




Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.



This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil 750



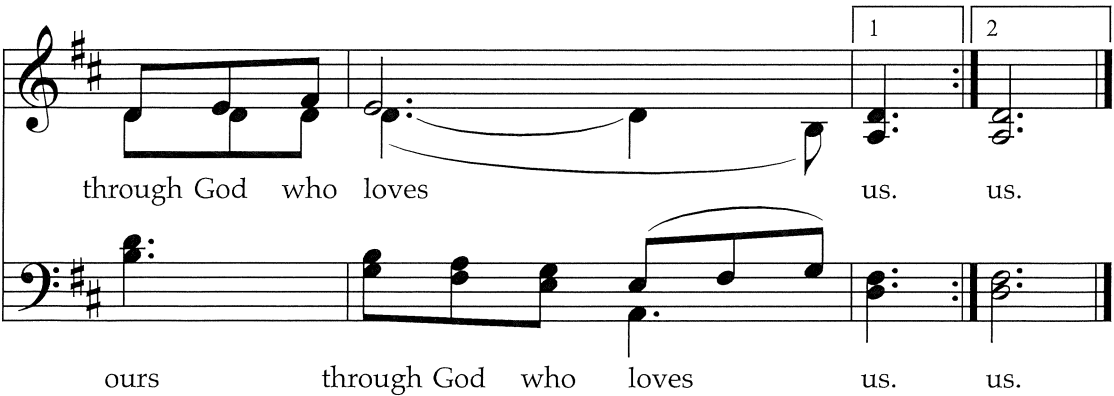
Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.



Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is



through God who loves us. us.
ours through God who loves us. us.

Recognizing that this text arose from the years of apartheid in South Africa adds depth and resonance to its already confident language. Yet these words can also be read as a summary of Christ's death and resurrection, the true basis of our hope that good will triumph over evil.