



The Presque Isle Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
May 5th, 2024

Prelude

Barbara Merryman

Welcoming Music

You Are Welcome Here

Words of Welcome

Jennifer Gillis-White

Introit

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

PIUCC Choir

Call to Worship

One: Christ gives us a new commandment:

Many: "Love one another as I have loved you."

One: When we love one another as Christ has loved us, we will live lives full of joy.

Many: We will live with God's love deep in our hearts.

One: Let us worship the one who shows us how to love.

Many: Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Loving God, we remember your Child's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. May this time of prayer and reflection remind us of the love we have in Jesus. As we leave this sacred space, may we be filled with joy as we share his love with others. Amen.

Opening Hymn

The Summons (Will You Come and Follow Me)

Two-Minute Message

Meg Hegemann

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Jesus, our sibling and friend, we confess that we do not always love one another. Our divisions and disagreements so often prevent us from knowing the joy of meaningful relationships. Even as we seek to follow your example, we forget that we are chosen and appointed by you to bring hope to a weary world. Help us renew our focus and live by your will...that we may follow you with joy in our hearts. Amen.

Words of Grace

Jesus no longer calls us servants, but friends. Each relationship is a new opportunity to abide in Christ's love, and a reminder that we can start again.

Many: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

PIUCC Choir

Scripture Reading

John 15:9-17

Common English Bible

⁹“As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. ¹² This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. ¹⁷ I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

Reflection

Meg Hegemann

Reflective Music

Barbara Merryman

Blessing of Gifts

Jesus has appointed us to bear fruit that will last. Fruit that will bring love and justice. Joy and hope. Bring what you can; together, the gifts we offer can transform lives.

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Loving God, we remember that one of Christ's most important commandments is loving one another. With these gifts, help us show this love in our words and actions, caring for the vulnerable and offering hope in times of despair. Amen.

Community News and Announcements**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

Our Creator*, 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

**Please use whatever name is most familiar/comfortable when you pray to God.*

Closing Hymn

Lord, Make Me More Holy

Benediction**Sung Response**

God Be With You

God be with you till we meet again; By good counsel guide, uphold you.
With a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Pastoral Care Contact

Pastor Diane's Phone Number: 386-847-0883

Prayers for today's service came from "Power to Lay It Down: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Easter Year B" by Rev. Jacob Nault, Pastor of Union-Congregational Church in Waupun, WI.