

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:30 a.m. Sunday 14 May 2023**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day/ Festival of the Christian Home**

**ENTRANCE**

Prelude and Lighting of Candles (including Christ Candle)

Announcements: *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

\*Greeting\*\*:  
Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.  
**Those who believe in me, even though they die,  
will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me  
will never die.**"

\*Praise Choruses: 2031: "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"  
2142: "Blessed Quietness"

\*Opening Prayer\*\*:

**God our Mother and Father, we come to you as children.  
Be with us as we learn to see one another with new eyes,  
hear one another with new hearts,  
and treat one another in a new way. Amen.**  
*Corrymeela Community, Ireland, 20<sup>th</sup> Century*

\*Opening Hymn: 549 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Prayer for Illumination: Page 328 "Surely the Presence  
of the Lord"

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Psalter: UMH page 790: Psalm 66:8-20

(2)

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

\*Hymn of Preparation: 557 "Blest Be the Tie"

\*Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21

Sermon: *"Original blessing"*

Affirmation of Faith: 881: "The Apostles' Creed,  
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

\*The Peace: Let us offer one another signs  
of reconciliation and love.  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THANKSGIVING**

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer  
ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

\*Doxology: 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving\*\*:

**Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to render to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you, not with our lips only,  
but with our whole lives,  
turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days  
into a living sacrifice to you;  
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen**  
*(The Book of Worship 1965, Alt.)*

(3)

\*The Lord's Prayer: 895

**SENDING FORTH**

\*Closing Hymn: 560 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

\*Blessing\*\*:  
May the presence of God the Creator  
give you strength;  
**May the presence of God the Redeemer  
give you peace;**  
**May the presence of God the Sustainer  
give you comfort.**  
**May the presence of God the Sanctifier  
give you love. Amen**

*(United Methodist Clergywomen's Consultation, U.S.A.,  
20th Cent., Alt.)*

\*Extinguishing of Candles (including Christ Candle) and Postlude

**\*Going Forth**

\*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

\*\*THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP Copyright  
(C) 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House