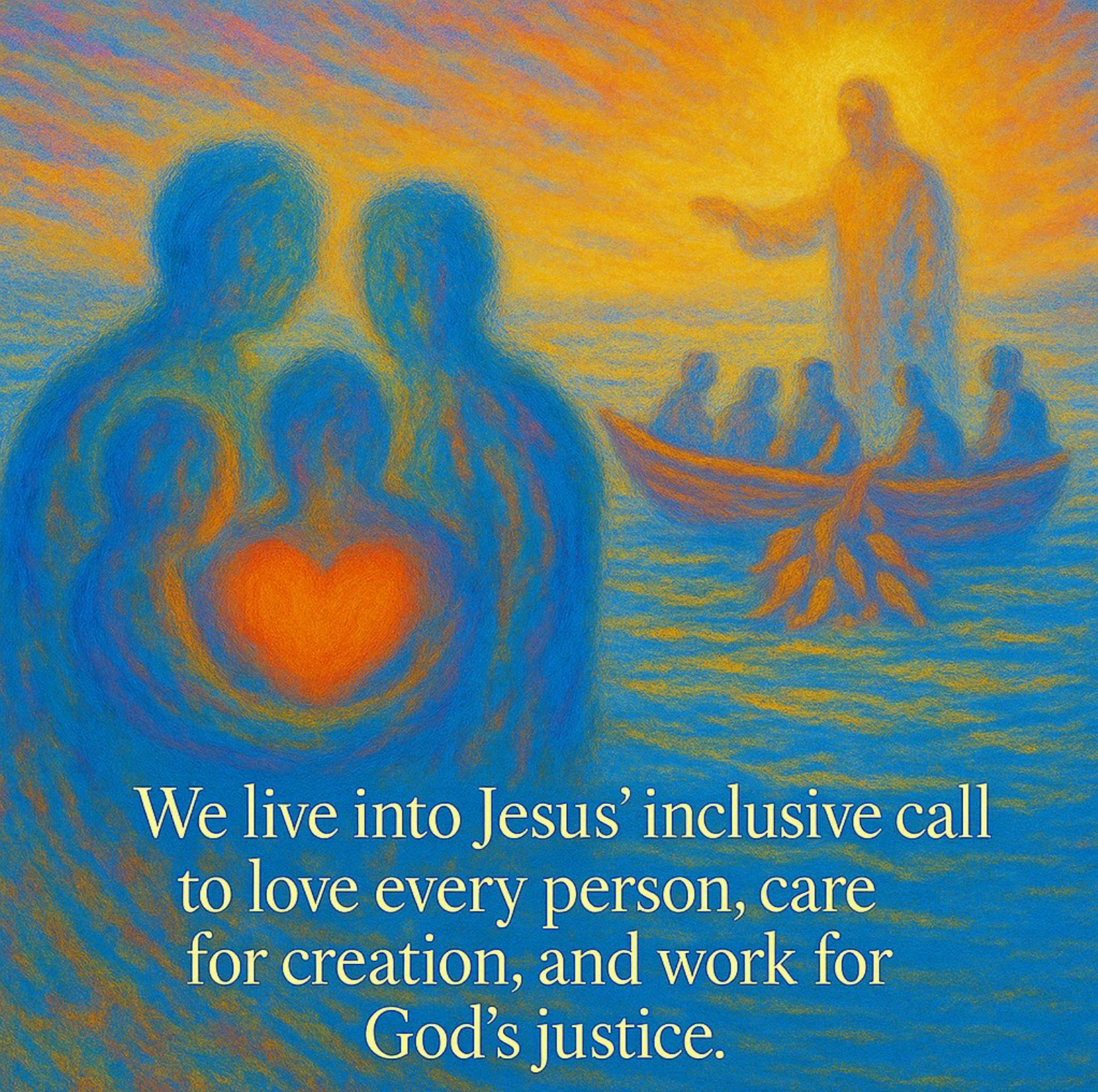




DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



We live into Jesus' inclusive call
to love every person, care
for creation, and work for
God's justice.

Celebration of Worship

May 4, 2025, 11:00 AM

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Blessed Be the Tree of Life
Communal Improvisation

Words of Welcome

Rev. Christine James

Announcements

Chime

*Introit

Blessed Be

Melanie DeMore

"Ref: Blessed be the tree of life that grows within you and me.

Steady and true, rooted in love. Shelter and peace below and above.

Sing to the sky, rise from the earth. Seasons come round again, death to rebirth."

*Call to Worship

Mary Rees

Leader: Through the Holy Spirit God is with us.

All: God, help us to see you.

Leader: We gather here to be with God and one another as we offer our praise.

All: God, help us to be present.

Leader: We praise God who loves us and is present if we open our eyes and hearts.

All: Let us worship God.

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

(Verses 1, 2, 4 and 5, Music may be found on page 7.)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

All: Merciful God, we lift up to you all the times we have fallen short. The times we have cared about ourselves more than others. The times we have failed to see your presence. The times we have followed our way instead of yours. Be with us, guide us and help us to share your love. Amen.

Words of Grace

Leader: Friends, Jesus Christ who lived as a human and knows what being a human is like, understands we are imperfect. Still, through Jesus Christ we are given grace and forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture

Psalm 30

Time with Children and Youth

Music for Reflection

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Dolly Parton

"It's been a long dark night,

Arr. Craig Hella-Johnson

and I've been waiting for the morning.

It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand-new day a-dawning.

I've been looking for the sunshine 'cause I ain't seen it in so long.

Everything's gonna work out fine. Everything's gonna be alright, it's gonna be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning. I can see the light of a brand-new day.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning. Everything's gonna be alright, it's gonna be okay."

Carolina Sullivan, soloist

Scripture

John 21:1-19

Sermon

"Hope for Extraordinary & Seek Ordinary"

*Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

(Verses 1, 2 and 4, Music may be found on page 8.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé

*"Where there is charity and love, God is there.
The love of Christ has gathered us together,
Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Rejoice!
Let us revere and love the living God.
And with a sincere heart let us love one another."
Text: Anonymous Medieval*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

(Verses 1-2, Music may be found on page 9.)

Service of Holy Communion

The Invitation

The Story

The Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And Also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

Unison Prayer

BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP, 2018

**All: Merciful God, we give thanks that you have invited us to this Table.
We give thanks that you have received us as members of the body of
Christ and have affirmed us as a community of faith. Lead us to live as
faithful and dedicated disciples in service to all the world; in the name
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

(Verses 3 and 4, Music may be found on page 9.)

*Benediction

Choral Response

Amen

Justin Wallace

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Thank you to...

Guest Pastor: The Rev. Christine James

Liturgist: Mary Rees

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Carolina Sullivan, Joan Sussman

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, Evan McMahon

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,

Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 4

9:45AM Sunday Forum-BMISS
Update!
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Rev. Christine
James
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

Thursday, May 1

7:15PM Worship Team Mtg., Zoom

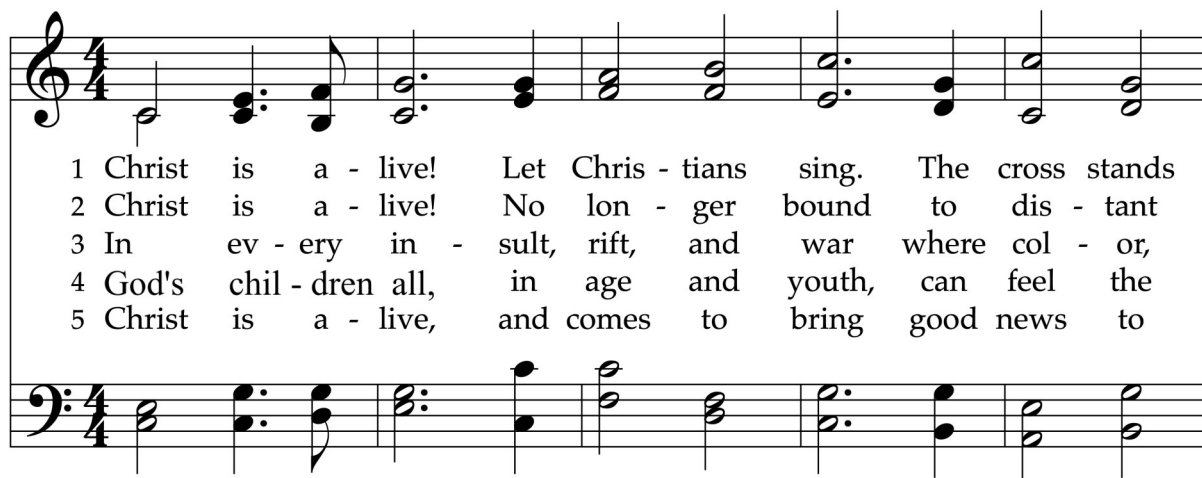
Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day/Choir Recognition

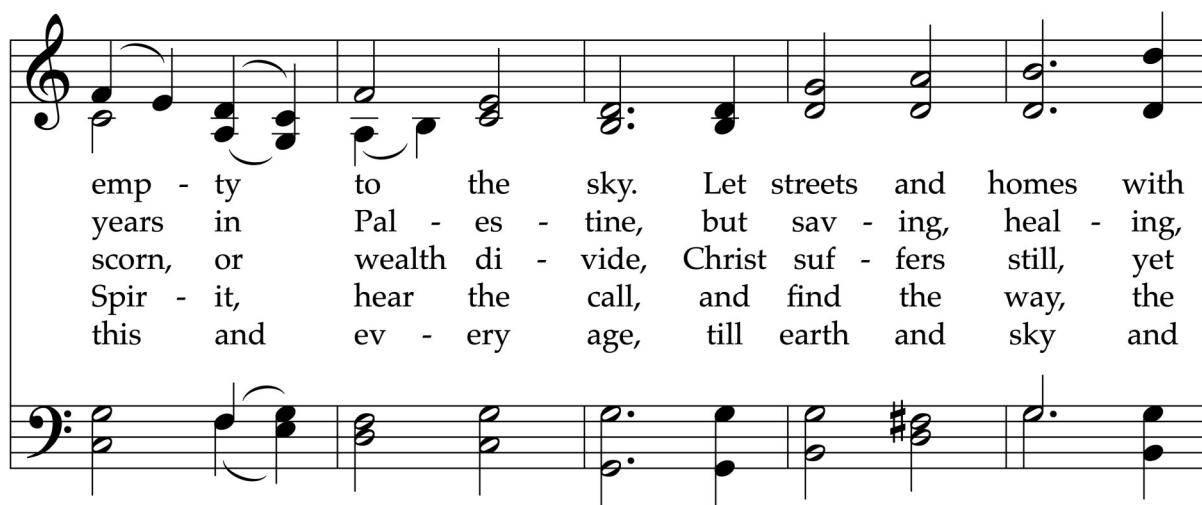
9:45AM Sunday Forum-Implicit
Bias (Part 1)- David Scott
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Nancy Brown
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Cake in the Sanctuary

Christ Is Alive!

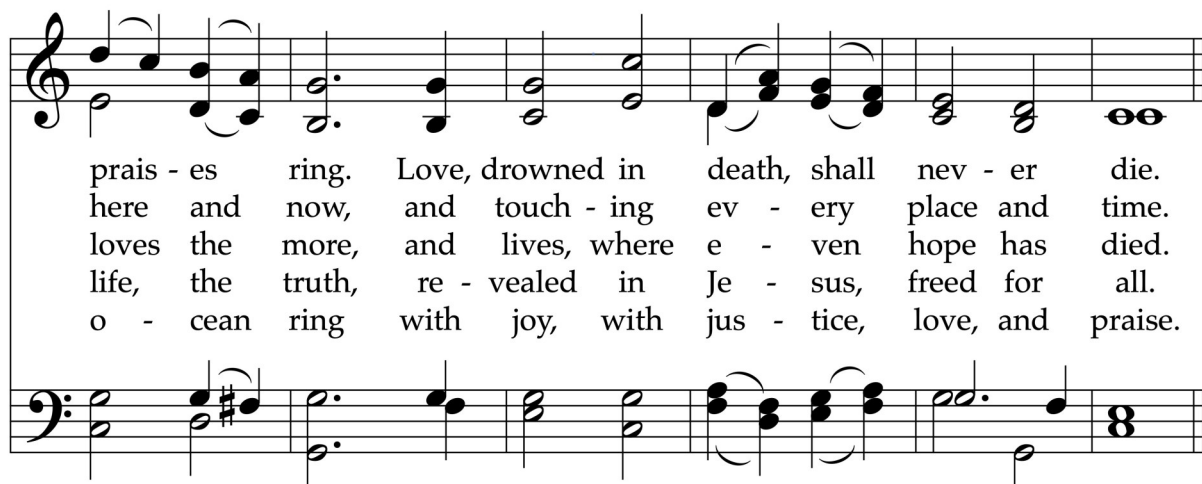
246



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
4 God's chil - dren all, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968, rev. 1995

MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

TRURO

LM

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F#) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F#m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F#) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.



Sunday Forums in May 2025

“We Live Into Jesus’ Inclusive Call”

May 4 - Building Minds in South Sudan (BMISS) Update!

Sebastian Maroundit

Come hear about the ongoing work, the challenges, the progress, and the joy and fulfillment experienced because of the work BMISS continues to do. Sebastian will provide an update on the schools, the new well, and the people whose lives are being positively affected.



May 11 - Implicit Bias (Part 1)

David Scott, Chief Diversity Officer, Monroe County Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Join us a half hour earlier at *9:15AM and take part in this special 90-minute Forum led by skilled facilitator David Scott. What is Implicit Bias and how do we recognize and work to overcome it? His professional and nonjudgmental approach has been commended by staff and congregation members who have recently worked with him.

May 18 - Implicit Bias (Part 2)

David Scott, Chief Diversity Officer, Monroe County Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Come again at *9:15AM for this special 90-minute Forum that will build on the information and work done the previous Sunday. You will want to come for both Sundays, but you need not attend the first one to attend Part Two.



May 25 - No Sunday Forum—Memorial Day Weekend

Sundays, *9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

(*Unless otherwise indicated)

We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available. Drop off children in the library before services start. The nursery is in C-23.

Children in Sunday School will attend worship and are invited to "Time with Our Children and Youth" for a brief time with the pastor, and then will be taken up to their classroom by their teacher. Parents are welcome to come up as well.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns– If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person(s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The prayer requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
Kristie Jones, Office Administrator
David Mear, Business Manager
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes,
Nursery Coordinator

Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator
Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler,
Moderator
Nancy Brown
John DeHority

Lea Kone
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Cindy Hamilton

Jacque Hancock
Elizabeth Katz
Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales

Becky Parks
Susan Richane
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

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