

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

* **OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, *NCH*)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, *NCH*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, *NCH*)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Seventh Sunday of Easter



**The First Church in Belfast
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation
May 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

WE ARE GATHERED IN

GATHERING MUSIC Music Director: Amy Kerckmar

WELCOME TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout to God with songs of great joy!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

God has made us whole.

God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.

AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" (p.451, NCH)**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings of an Advocate. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

***GREETING OF PEACE**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11 Rebecca Carey
RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 47 (p. 653, NCH)
EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23
GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53
MESSAGE “*You are Witnesses of These Things*”
by Rev. Sarah Pringle-Lewis

WE LIVE THE WORD

***HYMN** “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (p.259, NCH)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father and Mother 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

INVITATION TO GIVE

To God we give in thankful response for all the gifts God has given us. The money we give is but one way we say, “thank you.”

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.

(Note: First Church honors the diverse languages of faith. Please sing with words that are meaningful to you. Other versions of the Doxology are found in our hymnal, #776-781.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and gracious God, the money we give we pray will be used to bring your kingdom to earth. May our gifts strengthen this congregation to be more faithful, more present and more daring in our community and to the ends of the earth. Amen.

WE ARE SENT AND BLESSED

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise”
(p.260, NCH)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE