

Centenary United Methodist Church
Our Mission: “Love God, Serve Others”
May 25, 2025; Sixth Sunday of Easter, Liturgical Color; White, Traditional, 11:00 am
If you are comfortable, please stand. **Bold - Join in response, **The Faith We Sing*

PRELUDE

INTROIT *(in response)*
May God be gracious to us and bless us,
And make his face shine on us. AMEN.

GREETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING HYMN “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” **2158

*OPENING PRAYER *(unison, Psalm 67)*
May the people praise you, O God. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the nations of the earth. God, our God, blesses us. May God bless us, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him. AMEN.

*THE PASSING OF PEACE

*PRAYER RESPONSE Blessed Be the Tie that Binds

RESPONSIVE READING *(in response, 892)*
The saying is sure
And worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins
And not for ours only
But also, for the sins of the whole world
Thanks be to God. AMEN.

PREPARATORY HYMN “For the Healing of the Nation” 428

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE; Joys and Concerns *(Adopted from the Book of Worship 395)*
God of eternity: You are present with us because of Christ’s rising from the dead, and you persist in lifting us to new life in him. We bring to you our prayers for this world in need of resurrection. Especially, we pray for nations and peoples in strife, *(You may voice your prayers)*.
Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.
For the poor and impoverished, at home and abroad...Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.
For those we know in particular times of distress . . .Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who are ill and the sick . . .Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.
For the gift of life...Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.
For those who lost their loved ones . . . Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.
For all who follow the risen Christ and for the ministry of the church . . .Lord in your mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer, Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(unison)*
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. AMEN.

OFFERTORY
Offering Nickels for Nigeria
*DOXOLOGY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow *(Sung to the tune of 95)*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(unison, Book of worship Liturgy of evening prayer, Syria, 4th cent.)*
We praise and thank you, O God, for you are without beginning and without end. Through Christ, you created the whole world; through Christ, you preserve it. You made the day for the works of light and the night for the refreshment of our minds and bodies. Through Christ and in the Holy Spirit, we offer you all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE Kay McKinzie
First Lesson Acts 16:9-15
Second Lesson Revelation 22:1-5

*GOSPEL READING John 14:23-29

SERMON “We Want Peace, *The Nature of God's Promise of Peace*”

*CLOSING HYMN “Shall We Gather at the River” 723

*BENEDICTION
***HYMN “God Be with You till We Meet Again” 672** (no refrain)

POSTLUDE