

Welcome to  
**Sunriver Christian**  
**fellowship**

An Ecumenical Ministry Sponsored by the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches



The Holy Eucharist  
in Celebration of  
the Fifth Sunday  
Of Easter

April 28, 2024  
10 a.m.

# Order of Service

Pastor Erika Spaet, *Celebrant & Preacher*

Jenny Long, *Lector*

Meagan Iverson, *Pianist*

Linda Shearman & Carol Thomas, *Song Leaders*

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**Bell Toll** *The ringing of the bells call us to worship and quiets our minds and voices.*

**Prelude** *A time to prepare your heart and thoughts for worship.*

Meagan Iverson

**Welcome & Announcements**

Pastor Erika

Please stand as you are able.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
To you, O God,

*All:* **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

*Celebrant:* By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

*All:* **Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere, especially those waters that surround us here: The Deschutes River; Paulina and East lakes; the Crane Prairie Reservoir, and so many other life-giving bodies. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

### **Opening Hymn**

### ***Gather Us In*** ELW #532, OneLicense.net, A-740306

1. Here in this place, new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
van - ished a - way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in the  
blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.

### **Greeting**

*Celebrant:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **The Scripture Lessons**

*Lector:* A Reading from Acts 8:26-40

*Lector:* An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Word of God, word of life.*

*All:*       **Thanks be to God.**

A moment for meditation

*Lector:*    **A reading from 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judg-

ment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. *Word of God, word of life.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

### The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15:1-8

**All: Glory to you, O Lord..**

*Lector:* Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Please be seated.

### **Musical Reflection:**

***God Is So Good,*** arr. Douglas Wagner

The Choir

### **Sermon**

Pastor Erika

Please stand as you are able.

### **Sermon Response Hymn**

***When Love Is Found*** WOV #749, OneLicense.net

1. When love is found and hope comes home, sing and be  
2. When love has flow'ered in trust and care, build both each  
3. When love is tried as loved-ones change, hold still to

glad that two are\_ one. When love ex - plodes and fills the\_  
 day that love may\_ dare to reach be - yond home's warmth and\_  
 hope though all seems strange, till ease re - turns and love grows  
 sky, praise God and share our mak - er's\_ joy.  
 light, to serve and strive for truth and\_ right.  
 wise through list - ning ears and o - pened\_ eyes.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

**Lector:** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence*

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**Lector:** For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**Lector:** For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

**All: hear our prayer.**

**Lector:** For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering. We hold especially any who live in war, in any place where power and politics are more important than the lives of people. God of grace,

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Lector:* For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. We pray especially for Carol W., Shirley & Gary C., Andy E., Benjamin C., Carol D., Gail B., Gregg H., Madelyn G., Thomas W., Sierra G., Scott J., Carol T., Jan B., Mike B., Lauren B., Clyde B., Jonathan C., Andy S., Pam & Mac B., Stephanie S., Patty & Al K., Nancy V., Tobin & Michelle K., Carol F., Ann W., Jennie F., Erik E., Lynne E., Betsy M., Amber F., Elizabeth N. & John Scott, Olivia L., Rich D., Aedan V., and William L. God of grace,

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Lector:* With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Lector:* Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

### **Sharing of the Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be with you always.

*All:* **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

### **Offertory**

Meagan Iverson

Please stand as you are able.

### **Offertory Response**

### ***The Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

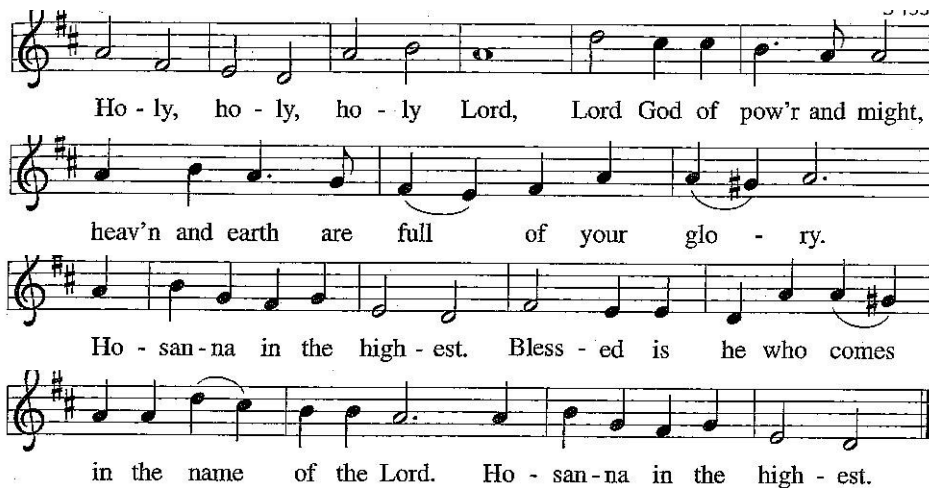
*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*All:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Celebrant:* Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

*All:* **We praise you, O God.**

*Celebrant:* Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

*All:* **We bless you, O God.**

*Celebrant:* We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

*All:* **We thank you, O God.**

*Celebrant:* In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.



Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant:* We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**All: Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: 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, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Fraction**

*Celebrant:* Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Please be seated

We ask that you respect the need for silence during the distribution of Holy Communion.

### **The Distribution**

Please be seated until the usher indicates that it is time for your row to go forward.

All are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood.

If you prefer a blessing, come forward with your arms crossed in front of you.

If you wish to receive Communion at your seat, please notify an usher.

You may respond with "Amen" as you receive Communion.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Blessing

*Celebrant:* The holy Three,  
the holy One  
increase your hope,  
strengthen your faith,  
deepen your love,  
and grant you peace.

*All:* **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

### ***They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love***

FOG #677, CCLI Song #26997, License #1483194

1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord; we are  
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand; we will  
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side; we will

one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord; and we  
walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand; and to -  
work with each oth - er, we will work side by side; and we'll

pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - styored.  
geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.

And they'll know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our

love, yes they'll know we are Christ - ians by our love. \_\_\_\_\_

## Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Go in peace. Share the good news.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

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Coffee is served today by Linda & Mike Gocke.

**Celebrant next week:** Pastor Rob Pearson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SPAGHETTI FEED**

#### **Make your reservations now!!**

Don't miss our first ever spaghetti lunch and dinner.

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. First seating: 12 noon. Second seating: 5:00 p.m.**

Menu: spaghetti, salad, bread, and cookies. Water, lemonade, and coffee will also be served.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** Donations accepted. This opportunity is open to all members of SCF as well as members of our community. Invite your friends and family, but don't delay in making your reservations. Simply email: [spaghetti@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:spaghetti@sunriverchristianfellowship.org). Be sure to let us know how many will be in your group and which seating you would like. See you there!

### **DE-ICING SYSTEM INSTALLATION**

**Please note:** The contractor who will be installing the de-icing system beneath the sidewalk outside the main entrance doors will begin work on Monday morning, April 29. The doors will not be accessible for the entire week. Access will be limited to the door by the office (to the east of the main door) until the work is complete.

### **BISHOP BELL'S ANNUAL VISIT**

Bishop Patrick Bell, Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon, will be making his annual visit to SCF May 11th and 12th of 2024. There will be a gathering with church management teams (Vestry, Lutheran Council and Managing Board at 5:30 Saturday evening and he will preach on Sunday. The Sunday service will be followed by a Q&A with all congregants.

### **MAY SERVICES**

May 5: 10:00 a.m. Pastor Rob Pearson, Celebrant and Preacher

May 12: 10:00 a.m. Bishop Patrick Bell, Celebrant and Preacher

May 19: 10:00 a.m. Pastor Mark Bocker, Celebrant and Preacher

May 26: 10:00 a.m. Pastor Erika Spaet, Celebrant and Preacher

### **OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS**

The office will be using our new email addresses from now on. Please send general emails to: [info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

Please send emails specifically for Rob to: [rpearson@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:rpearson@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

Please send emails to Joan Lewis at: [officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

### **JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MAY 26**

Please send articles to Joan Lewis: [officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

### **SCF MANAGING BOARD**

The SCF Managing Board meets monthly, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at SCF, 1:30p.m. The next meeting is May 28. All are welcome to attend.

**Dr. Robert Pearson, Associate Pastor: *Worship & Education* ▪ 541-593-1183**  
**Joan Lewis: SCF Office Manager ▪ 541-593-1183**  
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