

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

May 3, 2026
10 a.m.

Order of Service

Rev. Dr. Kally Elliott, *Celebrant & Preacher*

Joan Lewis, *Reader*

Mitzi Putney & Donna Warner, *Keyboardists*

Jimena Long, *Song Leader*

Please silence all cell phones.

Bells *The ringing of the bells calls us to worship and quiets our minds and voices.*

Prelude

Alleluia arr. E. Lorenz

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Kally

Spotlight on SCF

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Celebrant: The night before everything fell apart, Jesus sat with his friends and spoke about home.

All: Not a mansion in the clouds, but a place where love makes room for people.

Celebrant: "In my Father's house there are many rooms," he said.

All: Rooms for the joyful. Rooms for the weary. Rooms for people carrying more than they can explain.

Celebrant: "Do not let your hearts be troubled."

All: Which is hard advice in a world like this one.

Celebrant: Still, we come carrying grief, questions, medical reports, regrets, and the strange ache of being human.

All: And still, Christ meets us here.

Celebrant: "I am the way, the truth, and the life," Jesus said.

All: So we come to follow, even when the path ahead feels dimly lit.

Celebrant: In this place, there is room for doubt and laughter, for trembling faith and stubborn hope.

All: There is room for us.

Celebrant: Come. Let us worship the God whose welcome is wider than our fear.

Please stand in body or in spirit.

Opening Hymn

Thy Word W&P #144, CCLI Song #14301, License 1483194

Refrain

1. Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

1. When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be- side__ me, and
 2. I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan-der- ing__

noth- ing will I fear as__ long as you are near. Please be near me
 Je- sus, be my guide and__ hold me to your side, I will love you

Back to Refrain

to the end.
 to the end.

Call to Confession

Celebrant: Notice what Jesus does in his last hours, when he knows what is coming. He gathers his frightened friends close and tells them, "In my Father's house there are many rooms." Many. Enough space for **all of them** and all they are carrying.

Then, knowing exactly who they are, he kneels down and washes their feet. The feet of Peter, who will soon deny him. The feet of Judas, who will soon betray him.

Jesus keeps loving people even as they are failing him.

So, before we go any further, sit with that for a moment.

Where have we closed a door that God might leave open?

Who have we decided does not belong?

Where have we withheld compassion, forgiveness, or welcome?

What parts of ourselves have we hidden away in shame?

Let us tell the truth before God together.

Prayer of Confession

All: **God of wide mercy and open doors, we confess that we prefer certainty to trust. We want clear maps, clear answers, clear categories. We want to know who belongs and who does not. Without even realizing it, we shrink your kingdom down to something smaller than your love.**

We have judged people too quickly. We have withheld compassion. We have turned away from neighbors in pain. We have carried

resentment longer than we needed to. Sometimes we have even struggled to believe there is room in your heart for us.

Forgive us.

Open the locked rooms within us, soften what has grown hard and widen our mercy.

Teach us again the way of Jesus: the way of welcome, the way of courage and astonishing kindness, the way of tenderness strong enough to love this world.

Amen.

A moment of silence is kept.

Assurance of Grace

Celebrant: Hear the good news. The same Jesus who knew Peter would deny him still washed his feet. The same Jesus who knew Judas would betray him still passed him the bread. Whatever you have done. Whatever you have left undone. Whomever you have refused to love. The door is still open. Come in. You are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or in spirit.

Invitation to the Passing of the Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Scripture Readings

Joan

Prayer: From Psalm 31 (The Message)

I run to you, GOD; I run for dear life.
Don't let me down!
Take me seriously this time!
Get down on my level and listen,
and please—no procrastination!
Your granite cave a hiding place,
your high cliff nest a place of safety.
You're my cave to hide in,
my cliff to climb.
Be my safe leader,
be my true mountain guide.
Free me from hidden traps;
I want to hide in you.
I've put my life in your hands.
You won't drop me,
you'll never let me down.
Be kind to me, GOD—
I'm in deep, deep trouble again.

I've cried my eyes out;
I feel hollow inside.
My life leaks away, groan by groan;
my years fade out in sighs.
My troubles have worn me out,
turned my bones to powder.
Desperate, I throw myself on you:
you are my God! Save me because you love me.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit for the reading of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to *John 14:1-14*

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Reader: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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Musical Reflection

A Celtic Thanksgiving by P. Williams & J. Martin

Vocal Choir directed by Kathy Bullock; Ryan Zwahlen, Flute Player

Please stand in body or spirit.

Response Hymn *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* **Sing twice**

WOV #775, CCLI Song #22829

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The first system of music has the lyrics 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;'. The second system of music has the lyrics 'Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.'.

Prayers of the People

As a church, we are holding in prayer those in our community who are sick, grieving, weary, or in need of God's presence. A full list of names is included in today's announcements, and we invite you to keep these individuals in your prayers throughout the week.

During worship, we will offer a collective prayer for all those in need, trusting that God knows each name, each need, and each heart. If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please contact the church office.

Reader: Who in your life is carrying something heavy right now? Who needs prayer today?

A silence is kept.

Reader: For the people we love who are sick or grieving, exhausted or lonely.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For family members we worry about, for children and grandchildren finding their way in a difficult world.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For loved ones who live far away and cannot simply stop by for coffee or dinner anymore.

All: God of mercy, hold them close.

Reader: What in our world is weighing on your heart right now?

A silence is kept.

For the people living under the shadow of war and violence, for civilians in Iran and Israel and all the places where fear falls from the sky faster than peace can reach the ground.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For leaders making dangerous decisions, for people in our own country frightened about the future.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For families struggling under rising costs and impossible choices, for those who feel forgotten, disposable, or unheard.

All: God of mercy, bring wisdom, courage, and peace.

Reader: What are you carrying today? What keeps circling in your mind at 2 a.m.? What hope, grief, decision, or fear have you not yet handed over to God?

A silence is kept.

For the prayers we do not have words for, for the grief sitting quietly beside us, for the weariness we hide from other people, for the hope we are almost afraid to feel,

All: God of mercy, stay with us.

Reader: Who might need your kindness this week? Who has God placed in your path to encourage, to listen to, to love?

A silence is kept.

Reader: Send us out, O God, not just as people who pray, but as people who notice.

All: May we be people who make room. People who carry peace into anxious places.

Reader: Hear us now as we pray as your Son taught us to pray together...

**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.**

Offertory

Ode to Joy arr. F. Bock

Please stand in body or spirit.

Offertory Response

The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Praise God, in Jesus fully known;
Creator, Word, and Spirit One. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Invitation to the Table:

Celebrant: This is the table of Jesus, and the only credential it asks for is hunger. The same Jesus who said “I am the way” did not say it to keep anyone out. He said it on the night he passed bread to the friend who was about to betray him, and the friend who was about to deny him, and the friends who were about to fall asleep on him in the garden. He knew exactly who he was feeding. The table is no different now.

Whatever you have brought in here: your faith, your doubt, your weariness, your hope, your hard week, your good week, bring it to the table. There is bread enough. There is grace enough. Come.

Great Prayer of 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 right, and it is good, that we should thank you, God of spacious love and steadfast mercy. From the first morning of the world, you have been the Way. You walked beside us in deserts and in gardens, in exile and at home, when we were lost and when we thought we knew exactly where we were going. You sent prophets to point. You sent poets to remember. You sent teachers to ask harder questions. When we needed something more, you came to us yourself.

We thank you for Jesus.

He walked dusty roads and sat at crowded tables. He drew near to the people others avoided. He trusted women to carry good news and welcomed children who had been pushed aside. He shared meals with complicated, ordinary, deeply human people. He met honest questions with compassion instead of shame. He loved his friends all the way through betrayal, fear, denial, and death itself. On Easter morning, when the tomb stood empty, his love kept moving through the world.

So, we gather at this table remembering that on the night he was betrayed, after giving thanks, Jesus took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "This is my body broken for you. Every time you eat, remember me."

In the same way, he took the cup and, blessing it, said:

"This is the cup of the new covenant, my grace poured out for you and for the world. Every time you drink, remember me."

We remember these things and, somehow, in the remembering and in the sharing, Christ is present among us. We are once again drawn into his story, into his life, his love and his resurrection.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup, that this meal might nourish us with the life of Christ. Make us into people who carry mercy into hard places, people who know how to keep walking the way of Jesus in a fractured world.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

We serve communion by intinction. You are invited to take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and receive the elements together. Gluten-free and individual sterile options are available.

Prayer after Communion

-by Thomas Merton

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope that I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.**

Please stand in body or spirit.

Closing Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

WOV #779, One License Song #80468, License # A-740306



1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this sha-dow for life,
3. For to an-gels God's giv-en a com-mand, to guard you in all of your ways;



Chorus

say to the Lord: "My re-fuge my rock in whom I trust!"
u-pon their hands they bear you, lest you dash your foot on a stone. And I will raise you up on



ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the



sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand.

Benediction

Coffee is served today by Ronda Floyd & Liz Haberman

Next Sunday, Celebrant & Preacher: Pastor Kally Elliott

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUEST BOOK

We would love it if our guests would sign the guest book with your full mailing address. It is located in the lobby on the counter by the coffee bar.

PRAYER NEEDS

Please keep these people in your prayers: Kally E., Carol T., Jann P., Lori, Sandy G., Bob C., Alice H., Chris Y., Courtney and the Hall family, Carol M., Bonnie G., Whitney M., Nancy J., Marvin P., Lloyd S., Cliff R., Gina T., Jett A., Rachel, Sharon B., Rich D., Dianne, Curtis S., Melissa J., Dave & Katie R., Sheree, Karin B., Andy E., Thomas W., Scott J., Lauren B., Carol F., Jennie F., Erik E., Lynne E., Betsy M., Amber F., Olivia L., and Aedan.

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS AT SCF

May 10	10:00 AM - Worship Service, Pastor Kally
May 17	10:00 AM - Worship Service, Pastor Kally
May 19	1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - Memory Café, Fellowship Hall
May 24	10:00 AM - Pentecost, Worship Service, Pastor Kally
May 31	10:00 AM - Trinity Sunday, Worship Service, Pastor Kally

VOLUNTEER HOURS

We are preparing an article for the Sunriver Scene that will celebrate volunteerism at SCF and the impact we make in our community. On the blue slip you were given with the bulletin, please jot down the number of hours you have given as a volunteer in the community or at SCF during April. Please drop the slip in the offering plate today. If you are not able to finish it today, please send it in an email to mmconnell@sunriverchristianfellowship.org. See the May 1 SCF newsletter for more information. Your time is tangible and priceless! Thank you so much!

DIAPER DRIVE SUCCESS

Thanks to SCF Good Shepherds!

Our Diaper Drive was a huge success! On Thursday we delivered 51+ items to Mountain Star in LaPine. This represents a cash value of over \$2,000.00!! The families that receive the items will be very grateful for the help. The kids will be comfortable in their huggies, knowing there are people out there that care!

UPCAP — Up Close and Personal Committee is very grateful for your help!

MEMORY CAFÉS TO BEGIN IN SUNRIVER

Sunriver Christian Fellowship will be hosting **Memory Cafes**, offering a welcoming space for connection, creativity, and conversation to everyone in the area.

Memory Cafes are scheduled for Tuesdays on **May 19, June 16, July 21, and August 18 from 1:00–2:30pm** at Sunriver Christian Fellowship. We hope to continue the cafes into the fall and then into 2027. Each gathering will feature a different theme with simple, engaging activities such as music, storytelling, art, or games, along with time to relax and socialize. Light refreshments will be provided.

A Memory Cafe is a relaxed social gathering for people experiencing changes in memory or thinking, including those living with dementia, along with their family members, friends, and caregivers. The focus is on enjoying time together rather than discussing medical concerns. Participants are never asked about diagnoses and are free to share as much or as little about their experiences as they wish.

Memory Cafes are designed to be friendly, accessible community spaces where people can laugh, try something new, and meet others who understand the challenges and joys that can come with memory changes. They are not lectures or clinical programs, but rather opportunities for connection and shared activities.

The cafes at Sunriver Christian Fellowship are free to attend and open to anyone in the community who would enjoy an afternoon of conversation, creativity, and companionship. Here is a link with more information on memory cafes:

<https://dfamerica.org/what-is-memory-cafe/>

ART IN THE CIRCLES MAY 9 - INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

Your Nancy McGrath Green Gallery will host the second Art in the Circles event on May 9. Bike (or drive) the 6.5 mile loop to visit all four Sunriver gallery spaces. End at SCF for refreshments from 3 - 6pm. Details are in the newsletter. A fun activity for Mother's Day weekend.

OUR DAILY BREAD

Our Daily Bread for June, July, and August is available. They are in the rack on the wall by the front door.

MANAGING BOARD

The SCF Managing Board meets monthly at SCF at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting is on **May 26**. All are welcome to attend.

SCAN TO DONATE

Simply scan the code and it will take you directly to the SCF donation page.



Pastor Kally Elliott, Senior Pastor

541-593-1183 ▪ kelliott@sunriverchristianfellowship.org

Joan Lewis, SCF Office Manager ▪ 541-593-1183 ▪ officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org

Kathy Bullock, Choir Director; Donna Warner, Choir Accompanist; Shelley Giaier, Bells Director

Ministers: *The Congregations*

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