**Sunday, April 28, 2024**

[**www.gilbertcommunityumc.org**](http://www.gilbertcommunityumc.org)

**“Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.”**

\*Please stand if able…

PRELUDE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

**People: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.**

Leader: We are branches of the Vine – sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

**People: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.**

Leader: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

**People: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.**

Leader: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

**People: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work and build community with God and one**

**LITURGIST SCHEDULE**

April 28th Don Peterson

May 5th Norma Purkat

May 12th John Malevich

**USHER SCHEDULE**

April 28th Deborah Ross-Jagunich

May 5th Don Peterson

May 12th Candace Barshaw

**YARD WORK SCHEDULE**

April 22nd-28th Kerzie/Hafdahl

April 29-May 5th Kern

May 6th-12th Malevich

Scripture Readings for next week (May 5th)

Psalm 98 (UMH 818)

Acts 10:44-48

1 John 5:1-6

If you are trying to get a hold of Pastor MaryLou:

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Noisy Offering today – lets make lots of noise.

Our Love Offering this year will held our neighbors – in Minnesota and around the world – heal from trauma and find safety.

* Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to a new trauma center in Ukraine.
* Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to immigration legal support in partnership with Volunteer Lawyer Network.
* Thirty percent of the Love Offering will go to special programming aimed at reducing trauma at Emma Norton Services new Restoring Waters facility.
* Ten percent of the Love Offering each year to Volunteers in Mission scholarships, which support first-time mission trip participants.

Please help by giving to the Love Offering this year.

We will be making 120 Hygiene Kits again for the MN Annual Conference. We are looking for funds to help buy toothpaste and for help pay to ship the kits out when needed. So we need $240.00.

**another.**

**AMEN**

\*OPENING HYMN: *J*oy*ful, Joyful, We Adore You* 89

**OPENING PRAYER**

**Loving God, send your spirit among us now. Bind us to you in love this day, that we may worship in unity and friendship. Bind us to you in love this hour, that we may be strengthened to bring abundant love to your world. In love and gratitude, we pray.**

**AMEN**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Speak truth to our hearts, O God. Speak love to our lives, that we may remain in your love and share your love joyously with others. Speak grace to our souls, that we may rest in your grace and forgive others as we have been forgiven. Speak mercy to our world, that all the world may know your love and find redemption in your grace. In hope and trust, we pray.**

**AMEN**

**PSALM READING** Psalm 22:25-31 752

\*HYMN: *Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of All Nature* 189

CHILDREN’S TIME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Time of Silent Prayers…

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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**

\*HYMN: *O How I Love Jesus*  170

LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 John 4:7-21

GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-8

MESSAGE Pastor MaryLou

\*HYMN: *I Need Thee Every Hour*  397

**RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS/MUSIC**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above Ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

**AMEN**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Gracious God, as we offer our gifts today, we reflect on the wisdom in the words from John’s gospel. In this imagery, we recognize our role as branches, connected to you, the source of our strength and vitality. Help us stay rooted in your love, producing fruit that brings glory to your name. May these gifts signify our commitment to abide in your teachings and work joyfully in response to your love. In the name of Jesus, we pray.**

**AMEN**

BENEDICTION

\*HYMN: *More Like You*  Insert

POSTLUDE