

Order of Worship
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude *Les Barricades Mystérieuses* Francois Çouperin

***Call to Worship** (Responsive)

Come, people of God – not because we have it all together, but because Christ is at work within us.

We come as we are, trusting that God is still shaping us.

Come, not to compete or compare, but to be made one in love.

We lay down our pride and turn toward one another with grace.

Come, following the way of Jesus – who chose humility over status, and service over power.

We come to learn that way again, to walk it together.

So come – not just to worship with words, but to live as Christ's people.

We come to worship, and to become what God is calling us to be.

***Hymn 29** *O God, You Search Me* You Search Me

Litany for Easter (Responsive)

Jesus, you didn't come to grasp power, but to give yourself away.

Teach us to let go of what we cling to.

You stepped into our world in vulnerability and love.

Help us to move toward others with compassion.

You call us to care about more than just ourselves.

Open our eyes to the needs around us.

You form us into a community shaped by your love.

Bind us together with patience and grace.

You are at work in quiet and unseen ways.

Give us willing hearts and steady trust.

In all things, you are making us new.

Shape our lives to reflect your love. Amen.

Word & Wonder – A Time for the Young & the Young at Heart

Scripture Lesson Philippians 2:1-13

Sermon Like-Minded Rev. Christie Ashton

***Hymn 722** *Lord, Speak to Me* Canonbury
(verses 1 and 4-5)

***Affirmation of Faith** (Responsive)

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

As we pray together the prayer Christ taught us:

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 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.

***Hymn 543** *God, Be the Love* Green Tyler

***Charge & Benediction** (Responsive)

***Postlude** Excerpt from *The Pilgrims' Chorus* R. Wagner
from Tannhäuser

Worship Leader This Week: Damielle DeBraccio
No Worship Leader Next Week

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O God, You Search Me

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God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

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What's Happening at Hope?

Graduate Sunday: TODAY we will honor our graduate Lareeta Ashton.. She will be recognized during worship and will be commissioned with prayer and a gift as she begins a new season of study.

NEXT Sunday is Pentecost Sunday: Pentecost is the day when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church. The color red symbolizes the Holy Spirit so please wear red (or orange, pink, or yellow) to worship. We will enjoy birthday cake after worship.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our Playschool-Church Program & Cook-out: We especially thank Tim Clutts for grilling ALL the hamburgers and hot dogs, Playschool parent Paul Rodriguez for helping transport tables and chairs, and Travis Williams for coordinating volunteers. It was a great way to celebrate our Playschool students and families and we couldn't have done it without you!

Pulpit Swap: On Sunday, May 31, we will have our annual pulpit swap with Weatherly Heights Baptist Church. We will welcome their pastor, Rev. Valerie Burton to our pulpit and Pastor Christie will preach at Weatherly Heights. Join us as we celebrate our connection in Christ with other congregations.

Church Calendar at a Glance

May 17	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship - Graduate Sunday NO Choir Practice
May 24	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship - Pentecost NO CHOIR PRACTICE
May 31	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Sunday School Worship - Pulpit Swap w/ WHBC Choir Practice

The Elder on Call for April is Travis Williams he may be contacted at any time for information, emergencies, or concerns at **205-533-4145**.

Prayer Concerns

Members:

Debbie Adsit
Traci Loveman
Holly Lowe
Luanne Biles
Andy Young
Shelby Albert

Family:

Jimmy Marshall (Peter Loveman)
Kelley Waldron (Christie Ashton)
Lys Howdle (Susan Terry)
Parker Lord (Candy & Bob Lord)
Marcia Loveman (Peter Loveman)
Fred Jones (Bill Jones)

Friends:

Tracy Fletcher
Luke & Crystal Allen (Joanna Sterling-Clutts)
Barbara Dennis
Emily Loeb (Debbie Adsit)
Suzanne Minga (Traci Loveman)
Dr. Jon Wongsurawat (Traci Loveman)
Bob Harriger (Joanna Sterling-Clutts)
Melissa Altice (Angie Toles)
Mary Neikirk (Angie Toles)

Those serving in our military.

Those affected by natural disasters and war around the world.

Prayer Family of the Week:

Our prayer family of the week is **Danielle Debraccio**. This week, we ask the congregation to remember Danielle and her family, asking God to strengthen and bless them.

Our Mission Statement

Called by God's grace, we celebrate life with Hope by creating a loving Christian community, serving and worshipping God, and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We provide an open environment to explore God's will, to grow in commitment to Christ, and to be a refuge of healing.