



---

# *Spring Creek* United Church of Christ

**6th Sunday of Easter  
May 5, 2024**

*We are an Open and Affirming, God-is still-speaking Congregation.  
We embrace our diversity to make a divine difference together.  
Wherever you are on life's journey, there is a place of welcome for you here.*

---

*Welcome to Spring Creek United Church of Christ!*

**6th Sunday of Easter, May 5, 2024**

*(Please stand as you are comfortable, at the places marked \*)*

Meditation: "Amazing Grace"  
-American Spiritual/Johns (arr.)

Musician

Welcome

Pastor David

\*Hymn NCH 17 *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing*, verses 1, 2, 3, and 4.

\*Call to Worship (from *Sing a New Song to the Lord*,  
by Natalie Sleeth adapted and arranged  
by Jean Anne Shafferman)

**Worship Leader/People**

**Come and rejoice;  
lift up your voice;  
sing a new song to the Lord!**

**Harmonies fair  
filling the air,  
sing a new song to the Lord!**

**Let one and all  
answer the call:  
music and melody raise,**

**God to adore  
forever more  
with joyful anthems of praise!**

Prelude "Come Down, O Love Divine"  
-Siena/Vaughn Williams

Musician

**\*Gathering Prayer**

**Worship Leader/People**

***We have gathered, Jesus dear, we have come to watch and listen.  
Fix our minds, our senses clear, to receive your heavenly lesson.  
Please improve our concentration: draw us into contemplation.***  
(from NCH 74, *We Have Gathered, Jesus Dear*, verse 1)

**\*Confession**

**Worship Leader/People**

**O God, we confess  
We sometimes fail to acknowledge  
That your blessings are many and diverse;  
That a new day might deserve a new song.**

**Forgive us, O God.  
Help us respond to your abundant love  
With heartfelt joy and melodies  
Offering new ways to sing your praises.  
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastor David

**Lord's Prayer**

Congregation

**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.**

Readings: Psalm 98; John 15:9-17

Worship Leader

**<sup>1</sup> O sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm**

have gotten him victory.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar and all that fills it,  
the world and those who live in it.

<sup>8</sup>Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy

<sup>9</sup>at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming  
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

### **John 15:9-17**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you  
keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my

Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants<sup>[a]</sup> any longer, because the servant<sup>[b]</sup> does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup> I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Hymn NCH 36, *To God Compose a Song of Joy*, verses 1, 3, and 5.

Sermon: "Sing a New Psalm" Pastor David

Hymn NCH 273, *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*, verses 1, 2, and 3.

Today's loose offering will be credited to Pantry Sunday.

Offering "The Church's One Foundation"-Stone/Wesley Musician

**\*Offertory Response (tune of Old Hundredth) Congregation**

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor David

Hymn NCH 349, *I Come with Joy*, verses 1, 2, and 3.

**Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see insert.**

“Blessed Assurance,” performed by 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, River of Life Methodist tutoring program, Beloit, Wisconsin; led by Becky Grace and Jane Austin.

Announcements  
(Leslie Carr’s Garden Party May 18) Worship Leader

Lighting Candles for Peace Pastor David

Benediction Pastor David

Postlude "Trumpet Voluntary"-Purcell Musician

NCH – New Century Hymnal, *The Pilgrim Press*

**Pastor: David Sheridan**  
**Musician: Tom Stein**  
**Worship Leader: Becky Grace**  
**Hymn Leader: Deb Floor**

**Production: Bob Tissot & Josh Hill**  
**Ushers: Jerry Brickey & Mike Carr**  
**Greeter: Jerry Brickey**

**Prayer Requests**

- We pray for **Liz & Brent Schultz's friend** & long-time neighbor **Shawn**, who has ALS, and has entered hospice this week, and for his wife and six kids and their families.
- We give thanks for **Larry Hartzell's sister, Connie**, who had a successful kidney transplant.
- We pray for **Amanda Janitzky**, who is recovering from abdominal infections. We pray for the success of upcoming procedures.
- We pray for **Grace Petit's son, John**, who is confined to a wheelchair.
- We give thanks that **Mephisto** and family have found new housing.
- We pray for **Vicki** and **Jim Crone** as her health treatment and care continues.

- We pray for **Liz Schultz's** friend, **Mary**, and her sister, **Kathy**, who has been battling cancer for years, and now appears to have no more treatment options. We pray for Kathy's husband, **George, and their family.**
- We pray for **Larry and Laurice Hartzell's** dear friend **Lynette**, who had brain surgery to remove a tumor.
- We pray for **Phil Adkins**, who continues to suffer with cardiovascular problems.
- We pray for **Todd**, brother-in-law of Pastor David and Leslie, who continues cancer treatment.
- We pray for **Virginia**, Pastor David's sister, who has been suffering from complications of COPD and Covid.



**No Anniversaries**

**Birthday: Ron Mertz – 5/8**

**Jesse Wyant – 5/9**

**Deb Phillips – 5/10**

**Pastor David's Office Hours** -- Wednesdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
or call the office for an appointment.

Emergency: 815/299-8263

**Church Office hours**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to  
815/877-2576

**Attendance**

4/14-51

4/21-49

4/28-45