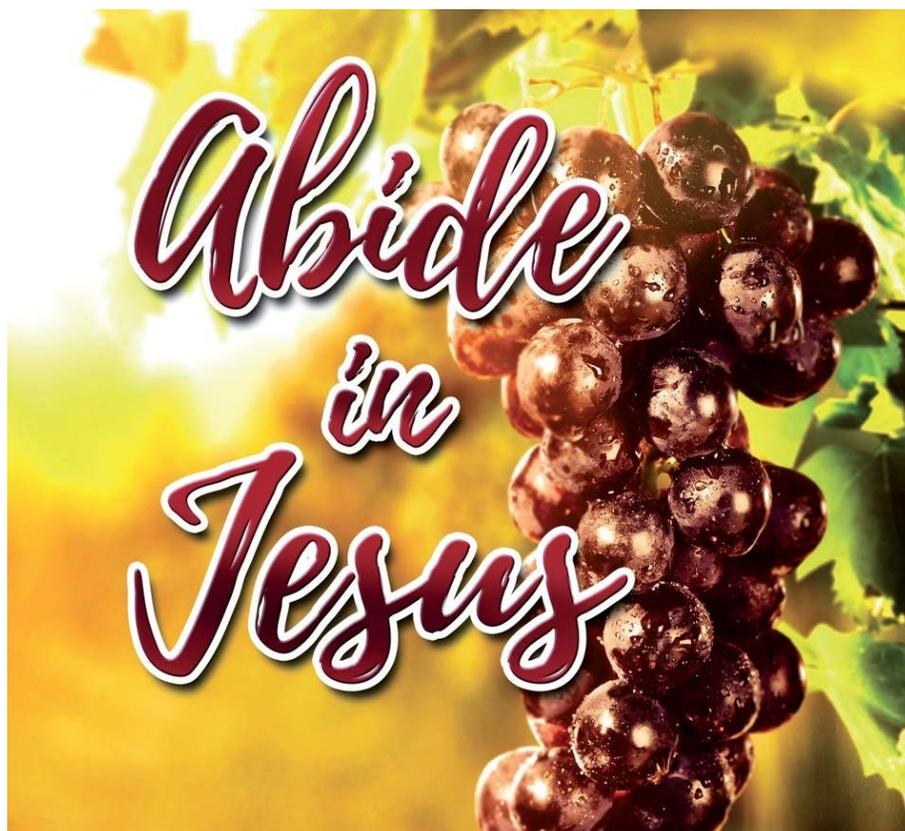


# Ebenezer United Methodist Church

May 2, 2021



*Ebenezer United Methodist Church is a  
Stephen Ministry Congregation.*



*Flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and*

*In Memory of Loved Ones*

*Presented by Mary Minker*

## Participating in Service

Pastor:	Rev. Mary H. Browne
Director of Music:	Robert Rudolph
Worship Leader:	Paul Kelley
Live Stream Team:	Richard Browne, Bill Clark, Reed Williams
Ushers:	Dorothy Towery, Sherri Hodgson
Song Leader/Soloist:	Mark Clausing

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*“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.” John 15:4-5a*

May 2, 2021

10:00 AM

GATHERING

CENTERING MUSIC

“Prelude in g-minor”

J.S. Bach

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

God is the True Vine,

**And we are the branches.**

Connected to God.

**Connected to bear fruit!**

Connected to God.

**Or we wither away.**

Connected to God.

**Or useless!**

We come to worship God, who is the True Vine.

**God, teach us how to remain connected so that we might bear good fruit!**

\*PRAISE HYMN (UMH 397)

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

NEED

**1. I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;  
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.**

*Refrain:*

**I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to thee.**

**2. I need thee every hour; stay thou nearby;  
temptations lose their power when thou art nigh.**

*(Refrain)*

**3. I need thee every hour, in joy or pain;  
come quickly and abide, or life is vain.**

*(Refrain)*

**4. I need thee every hour; teach me thy will;  
and thy rich promises in me fulfill.**

*(Refrain)*

**5. I need thee every hour, most Holy One;  
O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son.**

*(Refrain)*

\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord God, good shepherd, by the leading of your Spirit,  
help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days  
of our lives; in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

\*GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

MUSIC MINISTRY

"I Am the Vine"  
Mark Clausing, soloist

John Michael Talbot

I am the vine, and you are the branches, live in me and you will never die.  
I am the vine, and my Father is the keeper; come to me, let the Spirit bring you life.

Like a tree planted by the living water to stretch its roots into the living stream,  
You will show no distress in the heat of the drought, but still bear fruit and live.

Come to me, all you heavy laden; my yoke is easy, my burden is light.  
I will raise you up on the wings of an eagle, and to God's mountain will fly.

MESSAGE

"Abide in Me"

Rev. Mary Browne

RESPONSE TO THE WORD (*UMH 700*, v.3, 4) "Abide with Me"

EVENTIDE

**3. I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.**

**4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful and loving God, your love for us is unconditional,  
yet our love for you, for others and for ourselves is often marred.  
We allow prejudice and pride to blind us; our brokenness remains unhealed;  
we cling to old stories and hurts which impede the work of reconciliation.  
Forgive us, we pray, for failing to trust you, for playing it safe  
instead of following the daring call of your Spirit,  
for withholding forgiveness and grace from ourselves and others.  
Let your love renew us yet again.  
Let the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead  
rekindle creative life within us and restore right relations among us. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY – responsive Psalm

adaptation of Psalm 22:25-31  
*Refrain* – from *UMH 327, DIADEMATA*

*(Refrain – sung by all)*

**All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
**my vows I will pay before those who worship the Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
**those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
**and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before the Lord. (Refrain)**

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
**who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>All who sleep in the earth shall bow down to the Lord;  
**All who down to the dust shall bow before the Lord,  
and I shall live for God.**

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve the Lord;  
each generation shall tell of the Lord

<sup>31</sup>**and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
Surely the Lord has done it. (Refrain)**

\*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS (*UMH 95*)

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  
**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.**

OLD 100TH

\*OFFERING PRAYER

**God of the far-flung universe and God who is closer than our own heartbeat:  
we long to dwell in your closeness, abiding in you and you abiding in us.  
However, the call to abide in other places is strong:  
to abide in the world of popularity and acceptance or in the world  
of increasing wealth and power centered around our own  
wants and desires.**

**As we offer our gifts and ourselves to you, help us turn away from other calls  
and abide in that place of heart’s deepest desire:**

**in your Son, Jesus, and he in us.  
In Christ, we pray. Amen.**

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE 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. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD AND BLESSING THE CUP

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
in your eternal realm.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work  
to your praise and glory,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN (UMH 310)

"He Lives"

ACKLEY

**1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today,  
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.  
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
and just the time I need him, he's always near.**

*(Refrain)*

**He lives (he lives) he lives, (he Lives) Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives (he lives) he lives (he lives) salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives withing my heart.**

**2. In all the world around me I see his loving care,  
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.  
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;  
the day of his appearing will come at last. *(Refrain)***

**3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;  
none other is so loving, so good and kind. *(Refrain)***

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God.  
**We will be born of love each day of our lives.**

Beloved, let us abide in Christ's love, for he is the vine, and we are the branches.  
**We will grow as Christ's disciples and bear fruit for a world in need.**  
Beloved, let us care for one another, for the Spirit helps us abide in God's peace.  
**We will glorify God in the lives we lead. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

SENDING FORTH

"Fugue in g-minor"

J.S. Bach

*Please remain seated until the SENDING FORTH is concluded  
and you are dismissed by an usher.  
You will be dismissed by rows, starting at the back of the sanctuary.*

*\*please stand, in body or spirit*  
**bold text indicates congregation response**

††This Order of Worship is subject to the direction of the Holy Spirit. ††

*UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*TFWS: The Faith We Sing hymnal supplement*

Lectionary Scriptures for the **Sixth Sunday of Easter**, May 9, 2021  
Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98: 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

**STAY CONNECTED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA!**

**Website:** [www.EbenezerUMCNewark.org](http://www.EbenezerUMCNewark.org) and **Facebook:** [Ebenezer UMC Newark](https://www.facebook.com/EbenezerUMCNewark).

If you have information about an event which you would like featured on the website, please contact Lori Brown  
[loribrown927@msn.com](mailto:loribrown927@msn.com), or Rick Browne at [rbrowne646@gmail.com](mailto:rbrowne646@gmail.com).



All our members, ministers  
Rev. Mary H. Browne, Senior Pastor, contact @ [eumc\\_pastor@verizon.net](mailto:eumc_pastor@verizon.net)  
Robert Rudolph, Music Director, contact @ [eumc\\_music@aol.com](mailto:eumc_music@aol.com)  
Calvin Keeler, Sr., Minister of Visitation  
Megan & Mike Jones, Youth Ministry  
Carol Coney, Administrative Assistant  
Jackie Scott, Facilities Manager  
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Ebenezer United Methodist Church  
525 Polly Drummond Hill Road  
Newark, DE 19711

## Our Prayers



Becky ++++ Michele Berk Brantley +++ Ralph Crossan + Joanne Dobies + Jennifer Evans ++ <b>Julie Ferreri</b> Jamie ++	Kaitlyn + Kay ++++ Sharon Kelley + Carrie Mack +++ Shui Salam ++ Steven ++ <b>Rylie &amp; Chloe Walker</b> Wendy ++ Diane Woodman +	<u>Ongoing Concerns</u> Jade August Barbara Anna Marie Beasom <b>Donald Bogert</b> Clara Brelsford Roy Brown Judy Crescenzo Frieda Crossan Ruth Dore Victoria "Bo" Fulton Ken Johnson	Kristin Louise Pierce Curtis Reedy Denise Reedy Jeannette Richart Olivia Richart Zach Trexler Josh Vible Alex Wiant
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In an effort to list all prayer requests each will appear for 4 weeks as indicated by the number of + after the name

**Please pray for the family and friends of Doris Joyce Evans.**

**Please pray for all Law Enforcement Officers.**

**Please continue to remember all who serve our country in the military,  
especially pray for those represented from our congregation.**

### Refreshing Spring Review

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD. (Psalm 122:1).'"  
 We are grateful and delighted that more people are feeling comfortable with attending worship in person as the percentage of our congregation members and friends who are vaccinated increases. Here are a few reminders of the caring safety protocols we continue to have in place in compliance with the current guidelines issued by the state of Delaware:

\*masks must be worn in the building at all times.

\*at your assigned seat, please sit where your bulletin has been placed. This helps maintain 6 feet social distancing to those seated diagonally from you in the pew in front of or behind you.

\*please use only the outside aisles for entering or leaving the sanctuary. If your assigned seat is on the end of a pew along the center aisle, use the outside aisle to the front of the sanctuary and cross to the center aisle, please do not cross through a pew.

\*do not gather or linger in the Narthex before or after the service. If you want to chat with someone, please do so outside the building

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Meets every Tuesday at 9:30am in the Room 204.

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**Attention Graduates!** If you or someone in your family is graduating this spring please contact the church office and let us know the graduates name, school graduating from and future plans.

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Its official.... **Ebenezer UMC Holy Walkamolies** are back in action!

*Why Run When You Can Guac*



*Holy Walkamolies*

Over the years we have had several Holy Walkamolies come out and show their support for **Family Promise of Northern New Castle County.**

Out of an abundance of caution, and for the protection and safety of our Walk participants and volunteers, the difficult decision has been made to modify the 2021 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community to an **online only fundraiser and virtual walk** for this year's campaign. This modification ensures that our church is still able to fundraise, while not putting participants at risk of further spread of the COVID-19 virus in a mass gathering situation. This change is also in accordance with the CDC's recommendation of social distancing and avoiding mass gatherings.

Join us this year to show your support. If you would like to donate, you can do so on the website:

<http://hcf.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=wilmington> or you can leave a check payable to **Family Promise** in the church office by July 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Deb August, or the church office. Thanks so much!