



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP @ HOME

www.zionuccindy.net/worshipathome

The 6th Sunday of EASTER
May 17, 2020

Prelude

I Love You, Lord, Martha Main, YouTube

We are Called to Worship

One: We long for community and the Presence of God.

Many: **In whom we live and move and have our being.**

One: This day Christ tells us that we will never be alone. An Advocate—spirit of Truth—will share our journey.

Many: **With whom we will live and create community and celebrate being.**

One: May the love of God be with you.

Many: **And the joy of Christ surround you.**

One: May we know the presence of the Advocate as we gather in this community of peace, may your Truth lead us to the path of discipleship with deeds of mold mercy and courageous justice.

Many: **As an Easter People following a Risen Lord, may the life of Jesus live on in us and through us.+**

Gathering Prayer - Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ's love in the world. Amen.=

Song 1

Love Divine, All Love Excelling, 358, YouTube

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Prayer

You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Special Music

Jesus, Name Above All Names, Martha Main, YouTube

We Hear God's Word

John 14:15-21

15 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Song 2

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness, 326, YouTube

Meditation

Spirit Among Us: Promise of an Advocate

Spiritual Practice of the Week



Spirit Among Us

ADVOCATE
HELPER
COUNSELOR
COMFORTER
INTERCESSOR

In our trinitarian understanding of who God is, the Holy Spirit is often the aspect of God we spend the least amount of time trying to understand. Jesus' description of the Holy Spirit as the "paraclete," which can be defined in many ways, gives us a rich vision of the nature of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our Advocate, Helper, Counselor, Comforter, and Intercessor. Take some time to reflect—maybe even journal—about what each of these ideas means to you. In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit at work in your life? In these days of pandemic, has the Holy Spirit especially taken on one of these roles?

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Offertory

Friends, we may not be together in person today as we worship, but the ministry of our church goes on. During this time when we are apart, we are still in need financial support for our ministry.

You're invited to take out your checkbook in these moments. As you write out your offering, be prayerful with each letter and number. In times such as these, when money becomes tight and our economy is under strain, God invites us to be generous and give what we can. These are gifts we freely give, as we are able and as we are called.

We ask that you please mail in your offerings to our office.

Zion United Church of Christ
8916 E. Troy Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

You can now submit your offerings on our website through a secure PayPal donation button. Please know that PayPal receives at 2.2% processing fee and a \$0.30 transaction charge. You are able to set up reoccurring, monthly payments. Check it out on our website at www.zionuccindy.net/donate.

***The Doxology** (Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you)

Version 1

*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.*

Version 2

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.*

***We Give Thanks** (unison) – **May these gifts, O God, become action and intention, fulfilling Christ’s commandment to love. Amen.+**

Song 3

Because He Lives, 477, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing

Now leave this time of worship, refreshed and hopeful; let love be true and freely given. And may you be encouraged and blessed by the Advocate whose love warms and surrounds you like the sun, believing that God is with us always, as close as our beating hearts. Go forth this day to love and serve the LORD. Amen.+

Postlude

Benediction Medley, Martha Main, YouTube

Worship Notes:

+UCC Worship Ways

= Kimberly Bracken Long, Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost (p. 158). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.