

LARGE PRINT

# Worship Celebration

Fifth Sunday in Easter  
Graduate Recognition Sunday

April 28, 2024 + 9 AM

## We Gather as God's Children

Welcome

Prelude

*By Your Grace*

Josh Kraybill

### + Call to Worship

In the wilderness, water brings life.

***Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.***

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

***Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.***

In the bread and wine,

the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

***Seek us out, O God and give us yourself.***

Here is the water of life, the word that feeds,

the food of eternity.

***Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.***

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+ Hymn

*Love the Lord Your God*

TFWS 2168

**Prayers of the People (Seeking & Offering Peace)**

**Music of Meditation & Reflection**

*Improvisation*

Josh Kraybill

## A Prayer for Our Graduates

*God of truth and knowledge,*

*by your wisdom we are taught the way and the truth.*

*Bless our graduates as they now finish this course of study.*

*We thank you for those who taught and worked beside them,  
and all who supported them along the way.*

*Walk with the graduates as they leave and move forward in life.*

*Take away their anxiety and confusion of purpose.*

*Strengthen their many talents and skills,*

*instill in them a confidence in the future you plan,*

*where energies may be gathered up*

*and used for the good of all people,*

*for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## The Lord's Prayer

Solo

*My Time With You*

Elizabeth Philpot

## We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place,  
let us listen for the word of God among us.

**People:** *Our ears and hearts are open.*

## First Lesson — Mark 12.28-31 (NRSVUE)

<sup>28</sup> One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup> you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' <sup>31</sup> The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Second Lesson — 1 Peter 1.13 (NRSVUE)**

<sup>13</sup> Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon - *Head and Heart***

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

**+ Hymn**

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

UMH 399

**Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings**

**Choir Anthem**

*Amazing Grace*

arr. Josh Kraybill

**+ Doxology**

*Alleluia, Alleluia* (v. 1 and refrain)

UMH 162

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord!***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

***Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord!***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

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**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

***Through our offerings, O God,***

***Give your loving Spirit to a world in need of your wisdom.***

***Make our gifts flourish for the world;***

***In the name of Jesus. Amen.***

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# We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*My God, I Love Thee* (verses 1, 3-5)

UMH 470

+ Benediction

Postlude

*Toccata from "Symphony V"*

Charles Marie Widor

***Our service of worship is ended.  
Our worship through service now begins.***

## **Congratulations to Our Graduates**

**Eric Wang** and his family are from China. He is a graduate student in the Leadership in Higher Education program and will graduate from Baldwin Wallace University with a Masters of Art in Education.

**Jonas Ardillo** is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Education.

**Erin Perry** is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Performance: Vocal. She has been accepted at Peabody School of Music.

**Elizabeth Philpot** is graduating from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music Degree, majoring in Music Therapy and minoring in Psychology.

**Olivia Rentsch** is graduating from Case Western Reserve University.

**Jonathan Frederick Blevins** is graduating from Olmsted Falls High School. He will be attending the Farmer School of Business at Miami University.