

John Knox Presbyterian Church

May 18, 2025 Fifth Sunday of Easter



**I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.**

Welcome! Please be seated and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Conrad Kocher,
Arr. Victor Labenske

Words of Welcome

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

* Call to Worship

We are the church that lives into God's future today.

A church united across space and time.

A church of many races, languages and ethnicities.

**A church that lives by the work of God in Christ
that was, is now, and is still to come.**

The one who is seated on the throne says to us:

"See, I am making all things new!"

A new heaven and a new earth,

where the home of God is among God's people.

God's future is epic, and it's good news.

Remember God's future, for this is our story!

* Hymn

"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"

#5

* Call to Confession and Silent Prayer

* Unison Prayer of Confession

**O God, You who are always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people's worries,
against the winds of change.**

God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.

Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Open up our lives,
and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.

*** Words of Forgiveness**

*** Response**

“Amen”

twice #600

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Time with God’s Children

Prayer for Illumination

Today’s Psalm (responsive) Psalm 148

NRSVUE

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever;

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost,

stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle,

creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike,

old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for his name alone is exalted;

his glory is above earth and heaven.
**He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!**

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

Gospel Reading

Revelation 21: 1-6

NRSVUE

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

Sermon

Rev. Maggie Lewis

*** Hymn**

"O Holy City, Seen of John"

#374

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Offertory

"Grateful"

Mark Hayes

*** Sung Response**

"We Lift Our Voices"

#710

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayers.

Prayers for the World

After each petition: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*** Sending Song**

"For the Healing of the Nations"

#346 Sing to tune #65

*** Charge and Blessing**

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

Postlude

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

Arr. Larry Shackley

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the social hall after worship.

Church and Community Life

MAY FOOD for the Keizer Community Food Bank is **TUNA AND ANY OTHER CANNED MEATS**. We'll accept any other food items, of course, and monetary donations are always welcome. Volunteers are needed to serve our hungry neighbors. See their website at keizercommunityfoodbank.org or their Facebook page for more information, or contact Sheila or Teresa.

CHRIST JAR OFFERING received today supports Congregations Helping People. Once a month, on the third Sunday, we gather coins (and we'll take paper money and checks, too!) to support this organization that contributes toward meeting emergency needs of our Salem-Keizer neighbors. If you want to know more about helping CHP in other ways, please talk with Sheila.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP is this Tuesday at 2 pm in the Social Hall. They are continuing a study of *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*. All women are welcome!

HYGIENE KITS will be assembled on Pentecost, June 8, during fellowship time. Please consider donating items or money for items to make these kits for our unhoused neighbors, to be distributed by Union Gospel Mission's outreach teams. If you have questions, please see Sheila. A list of items is in the basket in the social hall.

FELLOWSHIP TIME after worship is a wonderful time to talk with friends and make new ones. It's even more pleasant with goodies in hand. Please sign up to provide some goodies or leave a free-will offering in the basket on the table so we can purchase refreshments when home-baked treats aren't available. Thank you!

HEARING CHALLENGED? The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop for people who appreciate a bit of assistance hearing more clearly, whether or not they use hearing aids. For more information on how to use the listening devices, see Eileen or CJ.

Looking Ahead

Sun. May 18 10:30 Worship with Pastor Maggie

Christ Jar Offering

Birthday celebration after worship

May Birthdays

8	Lee E.	23	Anna R.
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Mon. May 19 6:30 LAST CHANCE Salem Community

Chorus Free Spring Concert:

Music of the Night @ St. Mark Lutheran Church

Tues. May 20 2:00 Women's Bible Study

Wed. May 21 7:00 Session via Zoom

Sun. May 25 10:30 Worship/Memorial Day Weekend

Sun. June 1 10:30 Worship with Communion

Sun. June 8 10:30 PENTECOST SUNDAY

Wear red to celebrate the Holy Spirit!

April 2025 Financial Report

INCOME	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	ANN Budget
Pledges	\$3,753	\$4,752	\$26,863	\$28,007	\$83,910
Offerings	302	583	2,643	2,333	7,000
Misc.	482	542	4,016	2,167	6,500
Christ Jar/ CHP	130	90	620	360	1,080
Building Use	55	100	280	400	1,200
Per Capita	0	0	900	600	600
Food Bank Donations	175	150	700	600	1,800
Backpack B donations	100	100	1,600	400	1,200
INC. TOTAL	\$4,997	\$6,317	\$37,622	\$34,867	\$103,290
EXPENSES TOTAL	\$6,534	\$6,248	\$46,331	\$38,836	\$106,795
PROFIT/ <LOSS>	<\$1,537>	\$69	<\$8,709>	<\$3,969>	<\$3,505>
Including Investment Income, unrealized loss/gain and fees					
	<\$324>	\$69	<\$6,008>	<\$3,969>	<\$3,505>

John Knox Presbyterian Church (USA)

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Pastor's phone: 510-435-7836

Liturgist: Janet Anderson

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Pianist: Bethany Cozort

We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks. Copyrighted music is projected and recorded under One License #A-735693, CCL#3162413, or by permission of the author.

This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.