



**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE

**May 2, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.
Communion, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Prayers for all of us during this time we are physically separated one from another.

Welcome

Pastor Riva

Silent Meditation *(Let us all be in silent meditation as the candles are lit)*

Prelude

“Joy Song”

Mark Hayes

Call to Worship

Joanie Anderson

Leader: God is the True Vine,

People: And we are the branches.

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Connected to bear fruit!

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Or we wither away.

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Or useless!

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

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

Hymn #2076

“O Blessed Spring”

- v. 1 O blessed spring, where Word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine:
here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life giving Tree.
- v. 2 Through summer heat and youthful years, uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
sustained by Christ's infusing rain, the boughs will shout for joy again.
- v. 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their heavy harvest hold,
then through us warm, the Christ will move with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.
- v. 4 As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust;
still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.
- v. 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery:
that Word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Opening Prayer

Joanie Anderson

Lord, we would grow with you
New shoots reaching out
Hands stretched upward
Like leaves newly formed
Soaking up your light and warmth
Lord, we would grow with you

Lord, we would grow with you

Centering Prayer

BELL

Merciful God, hopeful God, you haven't given up on us!

Thank you for this gift of life! In you we move, and breathe and have our full being!

BELL

Oh, God of death and life, we await your resurrection.

There are so many dead places, where despair and destruction reign, where we are a divided people in so many ways. So our spirits grieve.

Often it seems that there is more to separate, than unite us, as your people.

Yet hear, O God, our prayer this day ... that we may focus on the Good that unites us and not that which further divides ... that we may feel your love for us in the midst of our pain ... and that we may be filled with hope for the future.

But let us not overlook where your justice calls and where healing is needed.

We pray for holy restlessness and sensitivity to the racism that still affects the lives, safety and aspirations of your children.

We pray for the family and friends of Daunte Wright, and the Brooklyn Center community struggling through the judicial process and ongoing trauma.

We pray gracious God for the families and friends of Andrew Brown, who are also seeking accountability and transparency about his death in Elizabethtown, NC.

We pray not only for the members of police forces and their families, but also for our legislators seeking change at the county, state and national levels of armed security and defense.

May we all work for good holding fast to the dignity of those vulnerable.

BELL

This day we pray for those in our community who are grieving the loss of a loved one, for the family of Gary Good, whose memorial service was held here yesterday.

We lift up Joan Bixler as she heals from surgery and prepares for another one at the end of May.

We pray for those in our Community Meals program as well as Meals on Wheels, who are feeling alone and struggling with health. We give thanks for those who serve the meals and deliver them as signs of hope and friendship.

This week we lift up in joy for the annual Plant Sale, all the volunteers and those supporting the fundraiser, may their gardens bloom and bring forth fruitfulness.

We also celebrate with Mary Tholkes in her commissioning as an MN United Methodist Earthkeeper. We give thanks for her call to lead ministries of caring for creation.

God, may we heed your call to be a people of resurrection and hope.

In this Easter season, let new life come.

May we see you in the spring, in every branch of every tree, in the sounds of the birds, in the whispers of spring wind.

Bring us together to see ourselves as you see us, a new creation.

So as we continue to walk in the wonder of Christ's resurrection,

Let us pray the prayer he taught his disciples:

Lord's Prayer

Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father*) in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our

sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Coming up this week:

Sunday, May 2

- 9:00 a.m. [Antiracism Book Study \(Zoom\)](#)
- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

Wednesday, May 5

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study – John Wesley Room

Thursday, May 6

- 9:00 – 1:00 Plant Sale Prep

Friday, May 7

- 9:00 – 5:00 Plant Sale – Parking Lot

Saturday, May 8

- 9:00 – 1:00 Plant Sale – Parking Lot

Sunday, May 9

- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

Antiracism Book Study Continues: The Sunday Adult Ed group will be finishing up the book by Ibram X. Kendi, *How to be an Antiracist*, with the following schedule:

- May 2nd, 9am on zoom--Chapters 14-15
- May 16th, 9am on zoom--Chapters 16, 17, 18

The link for the zoom will be available in the weekly email invitation to worship. For more information, contact Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud, nvictorinvangerudoi@hamline.edu

Plant Sale: Community United Methodist Church is holding their Annual Plant Sale, **May 7th from 9-5** and **May 8th from 9-1**. There will be Patio containers, hanging baskets of several varieties and colors, also annuals and bedding plants, all available to browse through and to purchase on site or pre-order. For questions and to pre-order, call 763 202 0796 no later than April 25th. There will be a list of items and [order form](#) on the church website www.communitymethodistchurch.org. Orders will be available for pick-up both Friday and Saturday. In addition, there will be the usual low cost food available by box lunch. We will be needing volunteers to help make this a great fundraiser for our church.

Plant Sale Volunteers will be needed on **Thursday May 6** to put the pre-orders together (9-1) and Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-1 for the on-site sale. You can volunteer for a morning or afternoon or just a couple of hours. Let Mary Tholkes know your availability by calling 763-202-0796 or emailing marytholkes@gmail.com. This is one of our largest fund raisers of the year for the work of the church, so your support is much appreciated.

Church Gift Shop: If you wish to buy items from the church gift shop, contact Pat Good (phone 651-348-6688). These items can be picked up on Wednesday mornings at 11 A.M.

Emergency Phone Number: If you need to contact the pastors for an emergency that cannot wait until the office phone is checked, we have added an emergency phone number: 612-757-7115. This is a cell phone that goes to the pastor on call.

Be part of the worship service: Email Pastor Riva: leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org for details.

Giving Options:

Electronic Giving has two options. One is using the app **Give+** on your smartphone (Android or iPhone), or via the church website. Check out the videos at:

<https://communitymethodistchurch.org/online-giving/> .

Otherwise, mailing in a check works great (950 Gould Ave NE, Columbia Heights, 55421).

Tech support ministry: If you need help in checking out your electronic devices in order to participate in our virtual service, send us (office@communitymethodistchurch.org or leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org) a note and we can send someone to come check it out for you (following safety guidelines and protocol).



Our Vision

We are an urban, intergenerational, inclusive, and welcoming Christian fellowship woven into the fabric of our community.

Community UMC's Statement of Reconciliation:

Community United Methodist Church of Columbia Heights believes that we are all children of God, individuals of sacred worth, created in God's image with our many differences, and that God loves all people. We recognize that God's love is not limited by boundaries. Therefore, we welcome and affirm people of all ages, races, ethnicities, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, physical capabilities, or mental abilities.

We believe that prejudice, hatred, or discrimination directed toward any individual or group is contrary to the life, spirit, and teaching of Jesus Christ. We have vowed to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression. Therefore, we shall work to eliminate prejudice and discriminatory practices within ourselves and our community, and to show God's grace. We proclaim ourselves a Reconciling Congregation and welcome all who seek a relationship with God.

Adopted November 3, 2019

Our Staff

Lead Pastor	Pastor Riva Tabelisma
Teaching Pastor	Rev. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud
Ministers	All the Congregation
Office Manager	Martha Bentley
Music Director	Dan Ritter
Bell Choir Director	Karen Schneider

Church Office Phone: 763-788-9009

Emergency/Pastor Contact Phone Number: 612-757-7115

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