

Today's Worship
May 1, 2022
3rd Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Rob Bruce

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Great is the Lord!

P: God's greatness is beyond our understanding.

L: Yet God has revealed God's self in Jesus Christ.

P: Through Jesus we have come to know the absolute love of God.

L: Lift up your hearts and praise the Lord!

P: May God continue to bless God's people with peace. AMEN.

MUSIC

Jesus Is Alive

All

(See Song Sheet)

MUSIC

Alleluia

All

(Verses 1, 2, 3, 5. See Song Sheet)

OPENING PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Karen Hoyt

Celebrations and Concerns

The concerns are followed by:

ALL: "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers."

LORD'S PRAYER

All

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever.

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:4-6 (NRSV)

Rev. Hoyt

4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6 but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

John 3:16 (NRSV)

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

MUSIC

The Love of God

Glenn Burkhalter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Bruce

SERMON

Steadfast Love

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION

CONFESSION

We know much about earthly things, but so little about heavenly things. We stand in your presence, O God, but fail to see the hem of your robe in our midst— much less your presence, far above, upon the throne of heaven. We do not often see your seraphim in flight around your throne. We do not often hear their voices or feel the very foundations about us tremble at their loud praise. Open our lives to your mystery, power, and glory. Open our lives to you, O Holy One. **AMEN**

ABSOLUTION

Today we will hear of heavenly things that can transform our lives forever.

We will hear of God's miraculous presence with us and among us and for us.

In God's temple, let all of us say, "Glory!"

ALL: "Glory!" AMEN.

THE INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minster: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born a new to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC

Love Lifted Me

All

I was sinking deep in sin
Far from the peaceful shore
Very deeply stained within
Sinking to rise no more
But the Master of the sea
Heard my despairing cry
From the waters lifted me
Now safe am I

Chorus

Love lifted me
Love lifted me
When nothing else could help
Love lifted me
(REPEAT)

All my heart to Him I give
Ever to Him I'll cling
In His blessed presence live
Ever His praises sing
Love so mighty and so true
Merits my soul's best songs
Faithful loving service too
To Him belongs

Souls in danger look above
Jesus completely saves
He will lift you by His love
Out of the angry waves
He's the Master of the sea
Billows His will obey
He your Savior wants to be
Be saved today

DEPART TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

Rev. Hoyt: Go forth in total devotion to learn, to teach, to serve. Go bringing peace and hope to all in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: We go forth to Love Christ, Love People, and Help People Love Christ. AMEN

Next Week's Sermon

*Think about it * Pray about it*
Perfect Love
1 John 4:7-12 (NRSV)

McEver Rd Church is Praying For:
Family of Bill Daumen (Ed Kern's brother-in-law)
Tom Sorrells (Richard Tilley's friend)
David Syme's granddaughter Katie and great granddaughter Camryn (serious injuries in car accident)
Bob Wilder (hospice)



Continued Prayers For:

Pat Adams, Margie Barron, Noel and Betsy Bassett, Jim Burton, Brandon Cartledge, Judy and Max Chosewood, Jan Christian, Gary Clark, Terry Dale, Wayne Davidson, Natalie Donatelli, Walter P. Emerson Family, Carolyn and Lloyd Evans, Martha Farr, Dick Fleming, Shari Gwaltney, Linda Hollimon, Jill Johnson, Luci King, Michele Lecorchie, Carolyn Lindsley, Thomas Lindsley, Vivian Mills, Mark Mobarrry, Paul Mobarrry, Celeste Mullins, Jeff Palulis, Fern Patterson, Jean Pool, Red Bird Mission, Carol and Martha Shay, Lloyd and Florence Smees, Andrea Steptowe, Kya Strickland, Jerry Thompson, Connie Towe, Barbara Vogt, Sharon Walton, Mike Wofford, Linda Yocom, John Young, all those fighting cancer

Our Service Men and Women:

Ryan Cantrell, Breanna Cantrell, Christian Edens, Maribel Edens, Robby Harrison, Travis Hutchinson, Kiernan Kane, Mason McDaniel, Kendall Payne, Zachary Peterson, Darrell Scales

Missionaries:

Ashley Johnson, Christie and Rick Krueger, Ann Milligan, Zonia Mucun

Please contact the church office (770-532-3160) or the Jordans (770-536-9043, ljordan4751@charter.net) for updates to the prayer list.

**Altar Flowers**
The flowers on the altar today are given by Renee Bender in memory of her daughter Melissa Barnett on her birthday May 4th.

**Church Wi-Fi: MCEVER
Password: 5226McEver**

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Loving Christ Loving People Helping People Love Christ

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here!



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, filthy rich, dirt poor. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Methodist than Asbury, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion;" we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts and you!

**McEver Road UMC 5226 McEver Road Oakwood, GA 30566
770.532.3160 [mceverumc.org](https://www.mceverumc.org)**

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