

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Take My Life and Let It Be* -
Henry A. Cesar Malan

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *This Is My Father's World* - Maltbie D. Babcock

Introit #401: *Here in This Place (Gather Us In)* Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day (Psalm 67)

Be gracious to us and bless us; O God, show us favor.

**May your way, O God, be known upon the earth;
may your deliverance be known among the nations.**

Peoples will praise you, O God; all peoples will praise you.

**Nations will exult and shout for joy, for you rule the
peoples with equity; you guide the nations of the
earth.**

The peoples will praise you, O God; all people will praise you.

Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

**Light of the world, you have given us your
commandments because you love us, but we cannot
keep them on our own. We give thanks for your Holy
Spirit, who teaches us to follow. We praise you for
these gifts, O Lord. Help us to live in response to
your steadfast love until the time of your coming
glory. Amen.**

Opening Hymn #403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*
(stand)

Call to Confession

We are a people living in sin.

**We are a people in need of God's vision,
praying for our eyes to be opened.**

We are a people in need of God's reversal,
praying for our hearts to be softened.

**We are a people in need of God's reconciliation,
praying that our faces might be illumined by God's
presence.**

Let us claim our need of God, confessing our sin together.

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, we equate our judgment with your
judgment and often consider our ways to be your
ways. We define peace as the absence of disruption,
holding our comfort as your aim and thinking our
preferences reflect your way. Too often we act as if
we are your authoritative witnesses, believing our
worldview corresponds with your vision, and that
our narrative contains your hope for the future. O
God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions.
Forgive our selfish views. Correct us with your truth
and teach us by your Spirit.**

Declaration of Pardon

It is the Lord who opens eyes to see. It is the Lord who
softens hearts to hear. It is the Lord who returns us to God's
presence. Peace, peace, peace—you are loved. You are
enough. You belong. In Jesus Christ you are restored.

Thanks be to our God forever and ever.

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #583:

Anthem: *Signs and Wonders* Cherwien/Cherwien

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all of those in need.

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors that we learn and grow in deeper relationship.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, who taught us to pray.

**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**

Hymn #688 *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* v. 1, 2
(seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

**Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that
in your light we may see light, in your truth find
freedom, and in your will discover peace; through
Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Scriptures for the Day:

First Lesson: Acts 16:9 - 15

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Gospel Lesson: John 14:23 – 29

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is
forever. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Peace That Stays* Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

**You call us to service, to be your eyes and ears,
hands and voice in this your world. To open our eyes
not only to the beauty and love which you create, but
the injustice, hate and suffering that mankind
generates. To open our ears not only to the
chattering of this coming week, but the searching,
fears and questioning of all whom we shall meet. To
open our hands not only to those we choose our
lives to share, but in welcome, love and fellowship to
all who you draw near. To open our mouths not only
to speak platitudes and simple words, but the truths
you lay upon our hearts Your Word for this your
world. You call us to service, to be your eyes and
ears, hands and voice in this your world.**

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #716: *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* v. 1, 2

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

We bring you only what is yours, Creator God, that you might use this offering and the giver for the building up of your kingdom and the glory of your name. Amen.

Sending Hymn #331: *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*
(stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com
(remain standing)

Go in peace. Live in love. Serve the Lord

Postlude: *How Firm a Foundation* - Early American Melody
arr. John Rippon

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