

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service Sixth Sunday of Easter**

May 10, 2026

Pre-Service Music: *A Mother's Care* Tracey Craig McKibben

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Create In Me a Heart of Love* Tracey Craig McKibben

Introit #54: *Make a Joyful Noise to God!* Psalm 66 Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of praise be heard! God has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

We went through fire and through water, yet God has brought us out to a spacious place.

Come and hear what God has done for us, all who fear God.

Surely God has listened to us and heard our prayers! Blessed be God, who is steadfast love. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, through all the ages, you have kept your promises. You have freed us from the powers of scarcity and death for abundant new life. Stay with us as we wait and watch for your Spirit with excitement and hope, that we may experience your love and share it with our lives, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Opening Hymn #12: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (stand)

Call to Confession

God does not reject our prayers. God does not withdraw love from us. Even when we fail to love others and struggle to love ourselves.

God's love is steadfast. Let us lift our prayers to God.

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Because Christ lives, we also live. Not because of anything we have done, not because of our belief or faithfulness: we live because Christ lives.

This is the Christ who forgives us. This is the God who is in us. This is the Spirit who is with us. Alleluia! Praise be to God!

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #583: *Glory to God* English, then Latin

Anthem: *Be Ye Filled with the Spirit* Mark Wilson

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

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

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 #243: *Be Not Afraid* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

First Lesson: Acts 17:16 - 34

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13 - 22

Gospel Lesson: John 14:15 – 21

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Thanks be to God. 1 Corinthians 15:1–2

Sermon: *Creator or Created* Jonathan Kimball

All authority and power and dominion to the name that is above all names—Jesus Christ our Lord—now and in the age to come. **Amen.**
Ephesians 1:21

Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22*

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #716: *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* vs. 1

Prayer of Dedication:

Great God, to you we give our thanks; your steadfast love endures forever. With gratitude we bring our gifts to you. Bless us and our gifts, that our lives and our resources may be a source of healing and hope, of joy and justice in our world. Amen.

Sending Hymn #317: *In Christ There Is No East or West* (stand)

Charge and Benediction: (remain standing)

May the love of the holy triune God—
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
abide with you forever.

Alleluia!

1 John 4:13–16

Now go forth in Jesus' name,
remembering his new commandment
to love one another, just as he has loved us.

Amen.

1 John 3:23

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord!**

Postlude: *Strong Praise!* Paul Davis

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