

Contemporary Order of Worship
 May 5, 2024
 Worship Series: Draw the Circle Wide
 Message: Ripples of Reconciliation

Gathering *Because He Lives (Amen)* Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Moment

Pastor: God's love has been poured out upon us through Jesus' passion and witness, standing for the oppressed even until death on a cross. Our scriptures this day describe the love that continues to be poured out by the Holy Spirit upon us and through us as we seek reconciliation and peace among all people. Let us explore what it means to live in right relationship with neighbors and with God.

*Centering Song *Build My Life* Praise Band

*Prayer Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray

People: Reconciling God,

Send down Your Spirit

so that we may know Jesus

and bear witness to our life and unity in Him.

Strengthen us to work towards peace and reconciliation

in church and society.

Build us together in Christ, and

unite us in Your love. AMEN.

Children's Moment

Linda Biscardo

Prayers of People

Sarah Chambers

Offering Song

Unity Hymn, 7185262

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

New Testament Reading

Romans 5:1-11

Lisa Dickinson

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Message

Ripples of Reconciliation

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion

Sarah Chambers

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and merciful God, we come humbly before You,
acknowledging our need for reconciliation in our lives.**

**We confess that at times, we have allowed pride, anger, and bitterness
to hinder the process of healing and restoration in our relationships.**

**We have harbored grudges, held onto past hurts,
and failed to extend forgiveness to those who have wronged us.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of compassion
and understanding towards others.
Give us the courage to admit our faults, to ask for forgiveness,
and to offer forgiveness to those who have hurt us.
May Your Spirit guide us in the path of reconciliation
that we may experience the freedom and joy
that comes from being in right relationship with You and with our neighbors.
In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.**

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: God's love has been poured out upon us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 13

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .

And so, we Your people on earth

and with all the company of heaven

praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

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 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.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's 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 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,
and the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.**

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

Bless Your Name

Praise Band

Prayer Following Communion

**Eternal God,
we give You thanks for this holy mystery
in which You have given Yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of Your Spirit,
to give ourselves to others
in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Risen Lord and Savior. AMEN.**

*Closing Song

If We Are the Body

Praise Band

*Benediction

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

If We Are the Body (Reprise)

Praise Band