

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

GREETING (EPHESIANS 2:19)

"You are not strangers, but you are citizens with the saints, members of the household of God."

WELCOME

Pastor Brad

OPENING PRAYER

Berni Mueller

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 139:1-3, 13-14)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

People: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Leader: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

People: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

✦ SONG OF PRAISE

HYMN # 40 – FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith PC(USA), 1983)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

✦ GRATEFUL RESPONSE

LIKE A MOTHER WHO HAS BORNE US, w/m by Bechtel and Rowan

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

"May the peace of Christ be with you....And, also with you"

At this time, the congregation may greet each other with peace.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE READING

EXODUS 3:1-8a

Marcia Chiaudano

Leader: Blessed are those who hear and keep what is written, in the light of Jesus, the Word made flesh.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Message. Afterwards, preschool and elementary-aged children may go to Children's Chapel.

(As the children come forward for the Children's message, ushers will collect any written prayer requests. Forms are located in the pew pockets near the center aisle. Please raise your hand to let the ushers know to collect your prayer request.)

✦ SONG OF FAITH

NO LONGER SLAVES, by Helser, Johnson, and Case

SERIES: WHEN THE NT CONNECTS WITH THE OT AND ME

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 20:27-40

SERMON

"MARRIAGE IN HEAVEN"

Rev. Dr. Brad Busiek

WE EMBRACE GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE, w/m by Bart Millard

In response to God's love, we are invited during this moment to reflect on how we might give thanks to God through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures. (During this time, offering plates will be passed down the pews. There is no obligation to give. You may also place a blue connect card in the offering plate to indicate your presence or desire to connect.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 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 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

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD

✦ CHARGE AND BLESSING (NUMBERS 6:24-26)

✦ GRATEFUL RESPONSE

HYMN # 719 – GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

✦ POSTLUDE

✦ *Those who are able, are invited to stand.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church! We are glad that you are here, and would like to get to know you better. We invite you to gather in the Fellowship Hall after the service for refreshments.

Are You Interested in Learning More About our Church? Church membership is a way to publicly affirm your faith in Christ and to make a commitment to partner in fellowship and ministry with a local community of Christians. When you join Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church, it does not mean that you are perfect or that you understand everything about God; it means that you have a growing desire to identify yourself as a Christian. It means that you are seeking a community of faith in which your spirit can be nourished in God's love and sent out to share God's love with all. Please talk to Pastor Brad if you are interested in joining us in an exciting journey of faith and service.

Mark your Calendar- On May 18, we will have a special healing service with the lighting of candles during worship.

Free Community Dinner, Wednesday, May 21, 5:30-6:30 pm - Everyone is welcome to come for an evening of fun fellowship and good food. This month we will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs outside, followed by games on the lawn. Invite your friends and neighbors! Please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/KvMCCLJpoWRxBLAr7>

SMPC Scholarship Applications - Due June 1, 2025 - Applications are now available for educational assistance from the SMPC Scholarship Fund for the 2025/2026 school year. The forms are available in the "SMPC Scholarship Fund" mailbox located in the hall by the church office. Recipients should be members of SMPC's constituency. The fund was established to benefit church families and encourage further education among the church youth.

To Ensure Sufficient Funding for Future SMPC Scholarships, please consider contributing to the scholarship fund by including a memo indicating "scholarship fund" with your tax-deductible donation.

Youth Group Every Wednesday Night From 6:00 to 8:00 pm - All teenagers are welcome to come to youth group at the church for dinner, games, scripture, sharing, and support.

REGULAR HAPPENINGS AT SMPC <i>(changes or variations in italics)</i>				
Day (next date)	Time	Event	Place	Contact
Every Sunday	11:45 - 12:15pm	Voice Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary	Michael Day
2nd Sunday (6/8)	11:30 - 1:00pm	Deacon's Meeting	Upper Room	Marty Strange
One Sunday per month	After worship	Sunday Funday	Location varies	Pastor Brad
Every Tuesday	10:30 - 11:30am	Gentle Exercise	Fellowship Hall	Linda Murphy
Every Wednesday	10:00 - 11:30pm	Bible Study	Fellowship Hall	Sonja Flener
Every Wednesday	10:00 - 3:00pm	Sewing Group	Upper Room	Gayle Burke
Every Wednesday	6:00 - 8:00pm	Youth Group	Church campus	Pastor Brad
3rd Wednesday (5/21)	5:30 - 6:30pm	Community Dinner	Fellowship Hall	Pastor Brad
Every Thursday	10:30 - 11:30am	Gentle Exercise	Fellowship Hall	Linda Murphy
Every Thursday	6:00 - 7:30pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary	Michael Day
2nd/4th Thurs (5/22)	12:00 - 2:00pm	Knit and Crochet	Fireside Room	Joyce Botsch
Every Friday	9:30 - 11:30am	Food Pantry Prep	Church campus	Julie Weindel
Every Saturday	10:00 - 12:30pm	Food Pantry Distribution	Church campus	Julie Weindel
3rd Saturday (5/17)	2:00 pm	Outriggers	Peline's on Stark	Barb Lintner
NEXT WEEK'S (MAY 18) SUNDAY SERVANTS				
Greeters	Larry and Sherre Barnett	Opening Prayer	Sonja Flener	
Ushers	Janet Pomazi and Larry Schneider	Scripture Reader	Steve Schall	
Children's Chapel	Phoebe and Amy Busiek	Special Helper	Steve and Felista Marker	
To receive weekly announcements and bulletins via email, subscribe at http://eepurl.com/pNMUP				

WELCOME TO SMITH MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 11, 2025

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