



*Resurrection Life - Honored Relationships*  
**May 17, 2026**  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter - Ascension Sunday*



# MEDITATION

The family is not of man's making; it is a gift of God and full of life. Upbringing in the family has a special character. No school or educational institution can replace or compensate for the family. Everything educates in the family, the handshake of the father, the voice of the mother, the older brother, the younger sister, the baby in the cradle, the sick loved ones, the grandparents and grandchildren, the uncles and aunts, the guests and friends, prosperity and adversity, the feast day and the day of mourning, Sundays and workdays, the prayer and thanksgiving at the table, the reading of God's Word, the morning and evening prayer. Everything is engaged to educate one another, from day to day, from hour to hour, unintentionally, without previously devised plan, method, or system. ... A thousand insignificant things, a thousand trifles, a thousand details, all have their effect. It is life itself that here educates, life in its greatness, the rich inexhaustible, universal life. The family is the school of life, because there is its spring and its hearth. -Herman Bavinck

Left to myself, the god I want is a god who will give me what I want. He—or more likely it—will be a projection of my desires. . . .

At a more sophisticated level, the god I want will be a god who lives up to my intellectual expectations. . . I want this god because he, or it, will underwrite my intellectual arrogance. He will boost my sense of being a refined modern thinker. The net result is that I become god; and this god I've made becomes my puppet. Nobody falls down on their face before the god they wanted. Nobody trembles at the word of a home-made god. Nobody goes out with fire in their belly to heal the sick, to clothe the naked, to teach the ignorant, to feed the hungry, because of the god they wanted. They are more likely to stay at home with their feet up. Can such a god really be God? - N.T.Wright, For All God's Worth

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, May 18th	Psalm 99	Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24	1 Peter 4:1-6
Tuesday the 19th	Psalm 99	Numbers 16:41-50	1 Peter 4:7-11
Wednesday the 20th	Psalm 99	1 Kings 8:54-65	John 3:31-36
Thursday the 21st	Psalm 33:12-22	Exodus 19:1-9a	Acts 2:1-11
Friday the 22nd	Psalm 33:12-22	Exodus 19:16-25	Romans 8:14-17
Saturday the 23rd	Psalm 33:12-22	Exodus 20:1-21	Matthew 5:1-12

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# WELCOME

*Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.*

*Thank you for joining us in worship today. We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor.*

## *For Parents:*

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with us as we worship. We like the noise; it helps us remember we are alive. The following services are available for you and your children to get the most out of your time of worship:

### *Infant & Toddler Care*

Infant and toddler care is available on the first floor of the east wing of our building. Ask one of our greeters if you need help locating this room. Nursery staff are well-trained, have required background checks, and maintain a safe environment for your child(ren).

### *Children & Worship*

Children & Worship is for children ages preschool through 2nd grade and meets in a worship space below the sanctuary during the sermon. They are dismissed during the announcements and return during the offertory. New families are welcome to tour the space before or after a service if desired.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + **EASTER** + PENTECOST + TRINITY

Easter is the greatest festival season of the Christian year. It begins with the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday) and lasts for 50 days. After the long preparation of Lent, and the cold dreary winter months that accompany it, and the somber preparation of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, Easter Sunday erupts into our hearts and souls as a joyous celebration filled with expectation of Christ's work among us. For 50 days we feast and celebrate Our Lord and his great victory. Easter themes are new life, joy, exuberance, resurrection, hope and love. The liturgical colors for Easter are white and gold.

*Please note that our services are live-streamed.*



## LITURGY OF PREPARATION

### **Words of Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

**Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

*Hebrews 4:14. 16*

Alleluia. Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven:  
**O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.**

### **Gathering Hymn - He Is Exalted**

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
I will praise Him  
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign  
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
I will praise Him  
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign  
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
[Repeat]

## Confession Hymn - *Agnus Dei*

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. world; grant us peace.

## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## Words of Forgiveness & Peace

For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

*Hebrews 9:24*

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

## Passing of the Peace

*[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]*

## **Hymns of Praise and Adoration**

### ***Living Hope***

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me  
Jesus Yours is the victory

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Jesus Christ my living hope

### ***How Deep The Father's Love for Us***

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **Living Our Faith**

### **Blessing Our Children**

Jesus called the children to him and said,

**Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,**

for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

**Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.**

*May Memory Verse*

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:11-12

### **Psalm Reading**

*Psalm 127; page 613*

### **Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Exodus 20:1-12; page 72*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading**

*Colossians 3:18-4:1; page 1170*

The Word of the Lord:

## **Thanks be to God. Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:  
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

*Matthew 15:3-9 - page 975*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **Sermon**

Pastor Peter Rowan - *Resurrection Life - Honored Relationships*

## **Creed**

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third  
day he rose again from the dead; he ascended to heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

- *The Apostles' Creed*

## **Offering of Prayers of the People**

You are free, Lord, your Ascension has set you free: free from the constraints of human existence, outside the limitations of time and space; free to be here with us now, in our worship and fellowship; and free to be with us always; for in your freedom you have bound yourself to us with a promise: **“Lo! I am with you always even to the very end of time.”**

We pray, Lord, for those who need to feel you close, who need the assurance of your love, the encouragement of your Spirit. [Silence]

We pray for those who are persecuted, who are discriminated against, who are mocked because of their faith or race or color. [Silence]

We pray for those who are imprisoned, who are tortured, who are exiled, because they have fought, struggled and spoken out for the rights of their people. [Silence]

We pray for those who are destitute, who are hungry, who are refugees, because of the selfishness and apathy of the world. [Silence]

We pray for those who are filled with guilt, who are broken-hearted, who are perplexed, because a relationship has gone wrong. [Silence]

We pray for those who are feeling fed up, who are in discomfort, who are afraid, because they are ill in body, mind or spirit. [Silence]

We pray for those who are numbed, who are angry, who are desolate, because they have been bereaved. [Silence]

We pray for those caught up in war, and violence, and hatred; especially the innocent victims of these evils. [Silence]

We pray at this time of financial turmoil, for those who have lost jobs, those who struggle to pay bills, and those who have the power to affect positive change. [Silence]

Be with us all, Lord: in all our daily struggles as we seek to follow you. Be with us all, Lord: in our periods of doubt and despair; and in our times of happiness, health and loving. Be with us all, Lord: until that time when in your in your Kingdom our joy will know no end: **AMEN**

## Offering of Gifts

But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

2 Corinthians 8:7



## Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*



## LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

#### Invitation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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 for us to give thanks and praise.**

#### Praise God for His Mighty Acts

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his most glorious resurrection appeared to his Apostles, and in their sight ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of pow'r and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

## **Praise for Christ's Sacrifice**

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## **Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer**

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us:

**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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## **Invitation to the Table**

The Gifts of God for the People of God!

**Therefore let us keep the feast!**

## **Sharing Holy Communion**

*Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free.*

## **Closing Prayer**

**Almighty God, whose only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven: May our hearts and minds also there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Benediction**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

- *Ephesians 3:20-21*

## **Closing Hymn - Bind Us Together**

Bind us together within your love  
Bind us together within your holy love  
As we shared in our sorrows, we will share in your joy  
Bind us together in love

Bind us together and be our peace  
Bind us together and be our perfect peace  
Though the tempest may rage, we will rest in your joy  
Bind us together in peace

Bind us together and give us hope  
Bind us together and give us endless hope  
Though our tears were our bread, we will feast in your joy  
Bind us together in hope

Bind us together and make us one  
Bind us together and make us truly one  
In your love, in your peace, in your hope, in your joy  
Bind us together as one

In your love, in your peace, in your hope, in your joy  
Bind us together as one

## **Dismissal**

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

**Hallelujah! Amen.**



## ATTRIBUTIONS

### **He Is Exalted**

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### **Sanctus**

Words: Traditional  
Music by Patrick Schlabs,  
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### **It Is Well With My Soul**

Author: Horatio Gates Spafford (1873)  
Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE

### **Bind Us Together**

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Caleb Cothron, 2026

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Sunday Picnics Starting After Church Today**

Our summer picnic tradition resumes today! Because of Mother's Day last Sunday, our May picnic is scheduled for the third Sunday in May. The dates for the following months fall on the Second Sunday of each month: June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13. All picnics will take place after church in the Upper Pavilion at Negley Park, located at 418 Cumberland Road in Lemoyne. We hope to see you there!

### **Reminders for Election Day, May 19**

Tuesday, May 19 is the date of the primary election, and once again, the church will be serving as a polling place. The county requires all visitors other than voters not to enter the Social Hall but to use alternate doors to enter and exit the building. Thank you for your cooperation.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

### **Vacation Bible School June 17-19 from 6-8 pm**

Emily Kulp recently shared that she's coordinating our VBS program this year! We hope your children can join us, as well as kids from Logos, our neighborhood, and beyond. A wide range of volunteer opportunities exist, both during the program hours as well as other times, at many levels of involvement. Emily encourages anyone interesting in learning more about ways to help to contact her at [emilygkulp@gmail.com](mailto:emilygkulp@gmail.com) or 856-857-7339. Thanks!

### **Altar Flowers**

Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory and affection for the May 21st birthday of her husband Wilson, and also in memory of the the birthday of her father-in-law, Mr. Samuel W. Watts, on May 22nd, and of her mother, Mrs. Stella Auxt, on May 23rd, by Mary Watts.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for:

Dottie Roden  
Darwin Leshner  
Virginia Anderson  
Greg Nies  
Sophia James, USAF

Elizabeth James  
Christine Zubrod Perrin  
Jon Yawger  
Donna Weatherly

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider liking, following and subscribing to our social media! Also, when you see, read or watch something you like, share it with your friends. It's a helpful way to let others know we are here!

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



## Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

\_\_\_\_\_ Visitor  
\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Attendee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Member

Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address (please include city and zip):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer

Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Contact us

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### **Office hours:**

Tues. & Thurs., 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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Dave Tanis  
Bruce Weatherly