



THE HOLY SPIRIT CHANGES
EVERYTHING

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Sunday
Virtual Worship

SUNDAY VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Sunday, May 10, 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“When There’s Love at Home”

arr. Roger Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 24)

Leader: The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and all those who live in it.

People: For he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

Leader: They will receive blessing from the Lord,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

**People: Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

*All: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in!*

*HYMN 229

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

PRAYER of the DAY (In unison)

Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, help us to choose life in you, that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ’s love in the world. Amen.

CALL to CONFESSION

Sisters and brothers, God not only asks us to repent, but also assures us of the forgiveness that has already been offered us in Christ. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the one who is steadfast love.

PRAYER of CONFESSION (In unison)

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

SINGING 572

“Lord, Have Mercy upon Us”

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, and you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

***SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST**

CHORAL ANTHEM *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”* E.H. Plumptre

PRAYER of ILLUMINATION (In unison)

Come Holy Spirit, our helper and advocate. Open our hearts and minds this day. Entice us with your presence. Spark us with a word of life—a message that we may share with others as we seek to live Christ’s love in the world. All this we ask in the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Acts 17:16-34 and John 14:15-21

SERMON *“Like Goldfish Looking for Water”* Rev. Myles Thompson

AFFIRMATION of FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The Same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

***HYMN 446** *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”*

INVITATION to OFFERING

As the people of God, blessed richly by his grace, let us offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor for God’s work in the world, as we present our tithes and offerings.

(Those joining us online may use our online giving platform at hocpc.org/give)

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

Almighty God, receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your astounding goodness. Make our lives to be an acceptable offering in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying, Lord, in your mercy, **hear 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

***HYMN 398**

“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***SONG of SENDING**

*God be with you til we meet again,
Loving councils guide uphold you
with the Shepherd’s care enfold you.
God be with you til we meet again.
Til we meet, til we meet, til we meet at Jesus’ feet
Til we meet, til we meet til we meet
God be with you til we meet again.*

POSTLUDE

“Give Thanks to God”

E. L. Ashford



Acts 17:16-34

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, “What does this pretentious babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities.” (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹ So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” ²⁰ It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. ²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.” ³² When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed, but others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³ At that point Paul left them. ³⁴ But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.



John 14:15-21

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”



“THEN HE BROUGHT THEM UP INTO HIS HOUSE
AND SET FOOD BEFORE THEM. AND HE REJOICED
ALONG WITH HIS ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD THAT HE
HAD BELIEVED IN GOD.”

Acts 16:34

