



NEWTOWN United Methodist Church

April 28, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Worship is a time to move close to God and receive spiritual energy for living courageously and serving others faithfully.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us gather in the presence of our Lord.

People: We come, eager to abide in the vine of Christ.

Leader: As branches connected to the true vine, we are sustained by the giver of life.

People: May our hearts be open to receive the nourishment of his Word.

Leader: In the vineyard of grace, let us grow and bear fruit abundantly.

People: We seek to glorify God through lives filled with compassion and service.

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

People: Let us find our strength, purpose, and joy in Christ alone, rooted in his love, and ready to make God's kingdom a reality. Amen.

*Hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This" UMH #292

*Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we are humbled by Your presence among us. We come before You with open hearts and minds. You remind us that Christ is the true vine, and we are the branches. Just as branches cannot bear fruit unless they remain connected to the vine, we acknowledge our need to abide in Christ, our source of strength and sustenance. Grant us, O God, the grace to remain rooted in Your love, that we may bear fruit in abundance for Your kingdom. May Your Holy Spirit empower us to live lives that glorify You, drawing others into relationship with You through our witness and testimony. Strengthen our faith, deepen our love for one another, and unite us as one body in Christ. In Jesus' name, we pray.

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Epistle Reading 1 John 4:7-21 Pew Bible pg. 241

Reception of New Members

*William Aycock
Dana Aycock
Deborah Rakos*

*Robert Galambas
Sandra Galambas*

Special Music "I Am The Vine" A. Pote

*New Testament Reading John 15:1-8

Message "The True Vine" Pastor Rodney Brailsford

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

*Hymn "The Summons" TFWS #2130
(Verses 1,2,4, & 5)

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*Response Doxology, UMH #94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go" UMH #438

*Dismissal and Blessing

Postlude

*Please Stand if able



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Kathy Mershon, Administrative Assistant
John Lewis, Director of Music

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