



# NEWTOWN United Methodist Church

May 11, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Prelude Elevation Paul Benoit

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH #140

\*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather today, remembering the faith that lived first in those who came before us: grandmothers who prayed, mothers who believed, mentors who guided.

**People: We come to fan into flame the gift of God within us.**

Leader: Like branches on the vine, we are called to remain in Christ, rooted, growing, and bearing fruit.

**People: Like a city on a hill, we are called to shine with holy light.**

Leader: This is not just a day to honor the past, it is a call to live with conviction.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, stir the fire within us, that we may shine with faith, courage, and love.**

\*Hymn "How Firm a Foundation" (Verses 1, 2, & 4) UMH #529

\*Opening Prayer

**Gracious and Loving God, we gather in gratitude, remembering the faith passed down to us: grandmothers who prayed, mothers who believed, mentors who guided. Yet we know faith is not just inherited, it is ignited. So today, stir the fire within us. For the young, give boldness. For the**

**seasoned, give strength. May Your Spirit move among us, connecting us like branches to the vine, that we may bear fruit that lasts, reflecting Your love, grace, and truth. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the source of our faith and the light of the world. Amen.**

\*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Prayer for the Pastor Gerry Hixson, Lay Leader

Epistle Reading 2 Timothy 1:3–10 Pew Bible pg. 211

Special Music Be Thou My Vision Cindy Berry

\*Gospel Reading John 15:1–8 Pew Bible pg. 109

Sermon Series *The Fire Within* Pastor Rodney Brailsford  
**"The Power That Builds Nations"**

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 "Be Thou My Vision" UMH #451

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory Meditation on "Tis So Sweet" Mark Davis

\*Response Doxology, UMH #95

**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**

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Hymn "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" UMH #127

\*Dismissal and Blessing

Postlude Foundation Wilbur Held

\*Please Stand if able



**Newtown United Methodist Church**

35 Liberty Street

Newtown, PA 18940

Rev. Rodney Brailsford, Pastor

Kathy Mershon, Administrative Assistant

Pat Guth, Music Director

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