

The Service of Worship

[Join us on Zoom!](#)

The Fifth Sunday of
Easter—Year A

May, 03, 2026 10:30am



6915 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212

First & St. Stephen's UCC is proud to be an Open and Affirming congregation.

If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate after the service.

Make an Offering Now



Church Staff and Leadership

Director of Music

Nancy Chronister
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General Contact for Church Questions

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Worship Team for Sunday Planning

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May 2026 Sunday Calendar

5/10/26: Christian Ed—*A Little One Shall Lead*, 10:30am

5/17/26: Worship, 10:30am

5/24/26: Christian Ed—*A Little One Shall Lead*, 10:30am

5/31/26: Shape Note Sunday, 10:30am

Prelude

Festive Prelude on
"Built On A Rock" by
Gilbert Martin

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

"Give Peace
to ev'ry Heart" by
Jacques Bertheir

Call to Worship

One: O God of mystery
and wonder, you come
to us in so many ways.

**All: In the person
of Jesus**

One: In the people who
followed him,

**All: In those who keep
alive Jesus' vision of
peace, justice, and
equality, in each
new generation.**

One: In the stories of
those who came before
us,

**All: In all those who
taught, and teach us
our faith. Each of us is
alive in Your presence!
God of mystery and**

**wonder, may we be
open to seeing you in
one another, and may
our words, actions,
and faith reflect the
love you have for each
of us, as your children.
Amen**

Hymn

"Christ Is Made the Sure
Foundation," NCH #400
REGENT SQUARE

Epistle

1 Peter 2: 2-10 read by
Debbie Kavanaugh,
Liturgist

Response

"Oh God, Send Out Your
Spirit," insert

Gospel

John 14: 1-14, read by
Debbie Kavanaugh,
Liturgist

Hymn

"Sekai no Tomo,"
NCH #72, TOKYO

Sharing Our Prayers

Anthem

"God You Spin The

Whirling Planets”
by Nathan Zullinger

The Message

by Rev. Cynthia Terry

The Welcoming Table

Hymn

“As We Gather at Your
Table,” NCH #332,
BEACH SPRING

Leader: “Jesus said: I am
the bread of life. You
who come to me shall
not hunger; you who
believe in me shall
never thirst.”

**All: “In company with
all who hunger for
spiritual food, we
come to this table to
know the risen Christ
in the sharing of this
life giving bread.”**

Leader: “Holy God, Our
loving Creator, close to
us as breathing, and
distant as the farthest
star, we thank you for
your constant love for
all you have made. We
thank you for all that

sustains life, for all
people of faith in every
generation who have
given themselves to
your will, and for Jesus
Christ, whom you sent
from your own being as
our Savior. We thank
you for the Risen Christ,
for calling forth your
church for its mission in
the world. Gifted by the
presence of your Holy
Spirit, we offer ourselves
to you as we unite our
voices with the family of
your people throughout
the Earth.

Response

“Oh God, Send Out Your
Spirit,” insert

Leader: “Come, Holy
Spirit, come. Bless this
bread, and bless this
fruit of the vine. Bless
us all in our eating and
drinking at this table
that our eyes may be
opened, and we may
recognize the risen
Christ in our midst, in

each other, and all humans we encounter on our journey.”

We believe that the invitation to this table comes not from any church or individual, but from Jesus. We invite all who hear and wish to respond to share the bread and the cup. There is a gluten free option for bread, and the cup is alcohol free.

Sharing the Elements

Come, for all things are ready. As you are able, please join us at the table. If you wish, raise your hand and the elements will be brought to you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We give thanks, oh God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth with courage and peace, rejoicing in all ways. Amen

Dedication of our Gifts and Offerings

NCH #781

Hymn

“Yours Is the Glory,
Resurrected One”

NCH #253

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Benediction

led by Rev. Cynthia Terry

Postlude

Worship Materials adapted from the New Century Hymnal, and Rev Michael Bock, UCC