

May 3, 2026 – 10:00 AM  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter | Confirmation Sunday



**EAST END**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

522 RUSSELL STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37206  
[WWW.EASTENDUMC.ORG](http://WWW.EASTENDUMC.ORG)

## **WHO WE ARE AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

We believe that Jesus' message of unconditional love means that every human being is a child of God and is worthy of love, respect, and inclusion. We welcome and embrace people regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, race, ethnicity, age, faith history, economic status, physical and mental ability, education, and housing status. We stand against discrimination and exclusion by choosing to worship and serve with all people through love, acceptance, and reconciliation.

# *Gathering and Entrance*

GREETING

Rev. Joanna Cummings

PRELUDE

Derrick Rohl, piano

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>+</sup>**

One: Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.”

**Many: We believe and we have questions and we wonder what is happening in our lives and in this world.**

One: Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

**Many: We love you and we try to keep your commandments.**

One: Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”

**All: We need peace in our lives. We are here in this place because we believe, we love, and we seek peace. Let us worship together.**

**\*OPENING**

*The Church's One*

UMH 546

**HYMN**

*Foundation*

**1. The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ our Lord;  
we are his new creation  
by water and the Word;  
from heaven he came and sought us  
that we might ever be**

**His living servant people,  
By his own death set free**

**2. Called forth from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Our charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name professing  
And at one table fed,  
To one hope always pressing,  
By Christ's own Spirit led.**

**3. Though with a scornful wonder  
the world sees us oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.**

**4. Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of our war,  
we wait the consummation  
of peace forevermore,  
till with the vision glorious  
our longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.**

**5. We now on earth have union**

**with God, the Three in One,  
and share through faith communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.**

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866; adapt. by Laurence Hull Stookey, 1983. Adapt  
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MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864. Public Domain.

*After the Hymn, children, age 4 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, are invited to Children's Church.  
Participating children will return to their families later in the service.*

## **PRAYER OF GRACE AND PRAISE<sup>++</sup>**

**Gracious God, as these young people step forward in  
faith today, we rejoice in Jesus' promise that he prepares  
a place for each of us in your boundless kin-dom, where  
there is room for all. May these confirmands build their  
lives on Christ Jesus who is the Way that guides, the  
Truth that anchors, and the Life that fills us with eternal  
purpose. Send your Spirit upon this congregation so that  
together we point one another and our neighbors to the  
One who leads us all home to you. Amen.**

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**One:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

# *Proclamation of God's Word*

SCRIPTURE

John 14:1-14

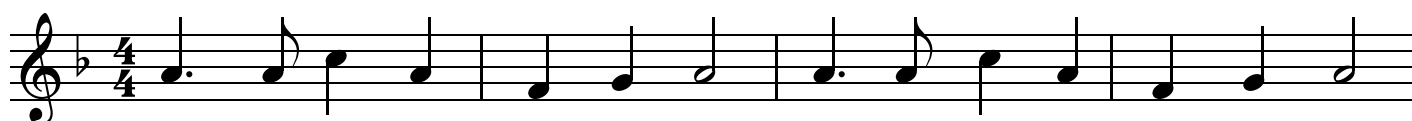
Our spoken response to the reading of God's word:

**Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

*Source and Sovereign,  
Rock and Cloud*

UMH 113



1. Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel-ter, Light,  
2. Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser-vant, Lamb,  
3. Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De-fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:  
Well and Wa-ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:  
Com-fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er-gies that nev-er tire:

*Refrain*



May the church at prayer re-call that no sin-gle ho-ly name



but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

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MUSIC: George J. Elvey (1856). Public Domain.

SERMON

The Way, The Truth,  
The Life

Rev. Brandon Baxter

ANTHEM

*Speak, Lord*

Tom Trenney

Bakari King, guest artist;

Sanctuary Choir

You are the way, the truth, and the life. You are our hope, our victory o'er the strife. You are our peace, our calm upon the sea. Bringing good news to the oppressed, you call us to set the captive free!

(Refrain) Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening. Speak, Lord, how we need to hear from you. Give us courage to speak, Lord, till injustice is silent, speak your words of love in all we say and do.

You come to heal our broken heart, to comfort as we mourn, just mercy to impart. You call us to preach the Gospel, dream the dream till justice rolls down like water, righteousness like a mighty stream. (Refrain)

Give us sight to see the world through the eyes of a stranger. Help us hear the beauty of a language not our own. Set our hearts to beat with compassion for our neighbor. When we love each other, you are seen and known. (Refrain)

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SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION  
**REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM AND SERVICE OF  
CONFIRMATION**

Pastor: Church family, do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? If so, say we do.

**Congregation: We do.**

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

**Congregation: With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Pastor: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and as many generations have done before us. Do you believe in God the Father?

**Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**Congregation: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God, and will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Congregation: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

### *RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS INTO THE CHURCH*

Pastor: Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**Congregation: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ, and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to participate faithfully in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

\*The term "catholic" means universal in this context.



**1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?**

**Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?**

**Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,**

**Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?**

**2. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?**

**Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?**

**Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around**

**Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**3. Lord, your summons echoes true when I but call your name!**

**Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.**

**In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.**

**Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

Rev. Brandon Baxter

\*SUNG  
BENEDICTION

*Shalom to You*

Sanctuary Choir

\*POSTLUDE

Derrick Rohl, piano

*\*The congregation is invited to rise in body or spirit.*

*† At East End UMC, we begin the Lord's Prayer with the simple name "God", acknowledging that many images of God exist. Please use whatever language speaks to you; Father, Mother, Parent, Creator, etc.*

# **Announcements**

## **East End UMC Calendar Reminders**

Sunday 5/3:	10:00 AM	Worship at Warner
	5:00 PM	Creation Care Book Study at Aldersgate
	5:00 PM	UMY at Aldersgate
	6:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal at Eastwood Christian Church
Monday 5/4:	8:00 AM	Coffee and Convo at Ugly Mugs
	6:30 PM	Scouts Troop 3 Meeting at Aldersgate
Wednesday 5/6:	5:30 PM	Skeptics & Seekers at the Rich's Home
Saturday 5/9:	9:00 AM	Creation Care Recycle Day at West End UMC

## **Compassion Camp: June 1-4**

Learn more about Compassion Camp and register at [www.eastendumc.org/camp](http://www.eastendumc.org/camp)

## **Giving**

Online gifts can be made via Venmo @eastendumc or online at [www.eastendumc.org/give](http://www.eastendumc.org/give). Please note if donations are for the General Operating budget or the Building Campaign.

Please see [www.eastendumc.org/give](http://www.eastendumc.org/give) for information on how to check your current contributions or pledges. We appreciate your gifts to EEUMC!

## **Nursery Ministry**

Our Nursery Ministry is available during Sunday morning worship for children ages 8 wks. until 4 yrs.

## **This Week's Birthdays**

- 5/3: Jeremiah Mosley-Day
- 5/4: Daniel Foster, Mary Ann Willis-Barnett, Emily Murray
- 5/5: Ginny Tacker
- 5/8: Sarah Martino, Chris Burgess
- 5/9: Brandon Baxter, Larry Stone

+ Call to Worship by SusannahDB from Tea and Theology, <https://teaandtheology.com/worship-words-call-to-worship-for-john-14/>.

++ Prayer created by Pastor Brandon using prompts via Claude Generative AI.