

Fifth Sunday of Easter

"Together: We Cannot Hate"

April 28, 2024



**Arlington Community Church
United Church of Christ**

*...called to be stewards of creation & to build a just
society based upon the inspiration of our faith*

Sunday, April 28, 2024

~ Fifth Sunday of Easter ~



*“Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all
the barriers within yourself that you have built against it.”*

— Rumi

Gathering for Worship

**Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand if able.*

Prelude

Tim K. Murphy
"Love Theme"

By Andrea Morricone from the original motion picture soundtrack *Cinema Paradiso*

Welcome

Rev. Jen Chapman

* Gathering Words

Caro Grosvenor

One: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;

Many: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

One: Whoever does not love does not know God,

Many: For God is love.

One: God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent Jesus into the world so that we might live through him.

Many: Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

One: No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

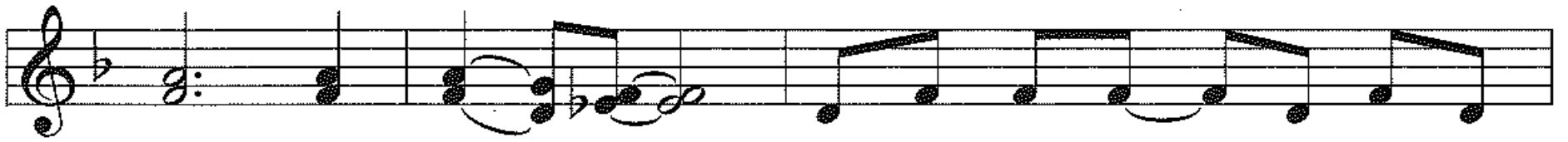
Many: May the Spirit of Love live in us, and may we live in Love. Amen.

* Opening Hymn

"Woke Up This Morning" CH#623



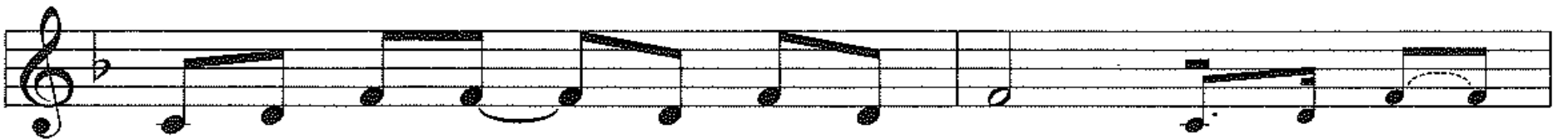
1. Oh, I woke up this morn - ing with my mind, (and it was)
2. Can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, (if you keep it)
3. Makes you love ev - 'ry bod - y with your mind, (when you keep it)



stayed on Je - sus. Woke up this morn - ing with my
stayed on Je - sus. Can't hate your neigh - bor in your
stayed on Je - sus. Love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your



mind, (and it was) stayed on Je - sus,
mind, (if you keep it) stayed on Je - sus,
mind, (when you keep it) stayed on Je - sus,



woke up this morn - ing with my mind, (and it was)
can't hate your neigh - bor in your mind, (if you keep it)
love ev - 'ry - bod - y with your mind, (when you keep it)



stayed on Je - sus, Hal - le - lu, Hal - le - lu, Hal - le -



lu,
Hal - le - lu Hal - le - lu jah.

Declaration of God's Love

Silence for Meditation & Bell

In our busy, noisy world, we offer a few minutes of silence to meditate and let your soul arrive in this place of worship.

* Passing the Peace

To share the peace with those worshipping online, please face the camera behind the lectern and offer a heart, a wave or other sign of peace.

Naming Our Gratitude

*We name into our space those things
for which we are grateful.*

Praying for Our World

Call to Prayer

“Courage My Friend”

By Eric Bogle

**Courage (courage)
my friend (my friend),
You do not walk alone.
We will (we will)
walk with you (walk with you),
And sing your spirit home.**

Lighting of the Prayer Candles

Caro Grosvenor

Each Sunday we light candles for victims of the wars of our world and for those affected by gun violence, praying for justice, freedom from oppression, relief from suffering, and peace.

Celebrations & Concerns

Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

*At the end of the Morning Prayer,
please join in with words that are comfortable to you.*

**Our [Father/Mother/Creator] who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us, this day, our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the Kingdom, the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Response

“Courage My Friend”

Listening for God's Still Speaking Voice

Special Music

The ACC Choir
"Gather Together"
Setting by John Ness Beck

Scripture

Caro Grosvenor
Acts 8:26-40, NRSVUE

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Moment for the Young & Young at Heart Rev. Jen Chapman

Scripture

Caro Grosvenor

1 John 4:16b-21, NRSVUE

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

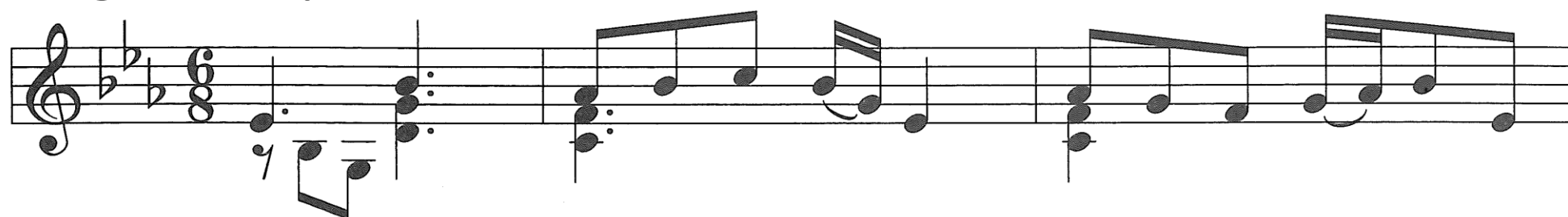
Interpreting for Our Time

Rev. Jen Chapman

"Together: We Cannot Hate"

Song of Response

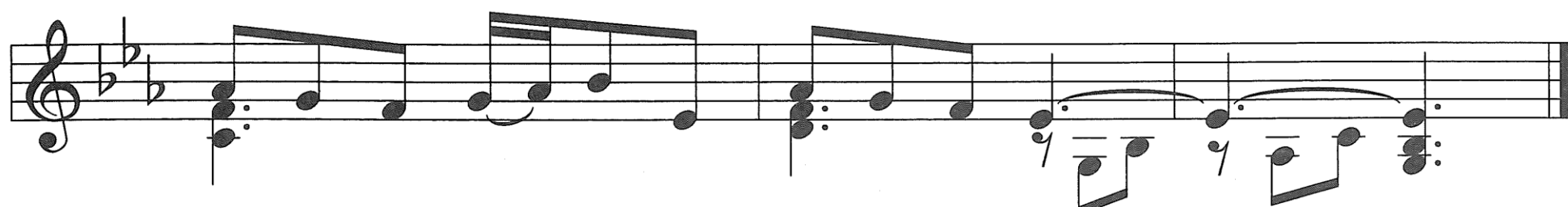
"Weave" CH#495



Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er. Weave us to - geth - er in



u - ni - ty and love. Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er.



Weave us to - geth - er, to - geth - er in love.

Offering Ourselves & Our Gifts

Invitation to Give

Caro Grosvenor

One: As we celebrate the hope of new life and the call to live out our faith in community, we are inspired to serve and to give. May we continue to support the work of this church and the wider United Church of Christ with our ongoing pledges and our morning offering.

Offertory

The ACC Bell Choir

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

Traditional Dutch melody arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

* Response

“What Does the Lord Require of Me?”

What does the Lord re - quire of you? What does the
Lord re - quire of me? Jus - tice kind - ness
walk hum - bly with your God. To seek jus - tice
and love kind - ness and walk hum - bly with your God.

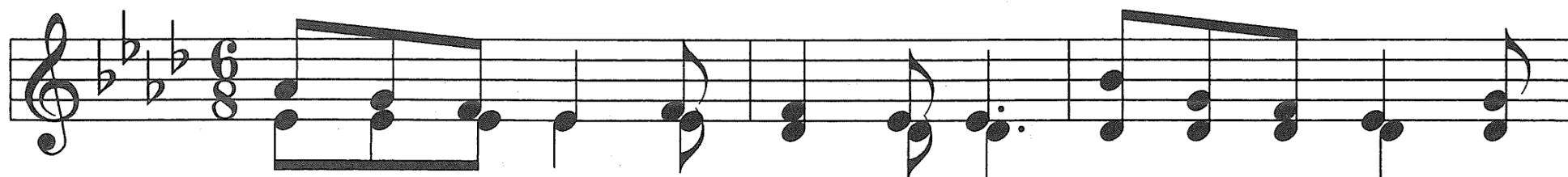
* Prayer of Dedication

All: Holy Spirit of Love, receive these gifts and use them to bring hope and new life to many. Help us to overcome division with connection, to overcome fear and hatred with love. Guide and empower us to connect with others, even and especially those who are different. Weave us together and lead us to abundant life. Amen.

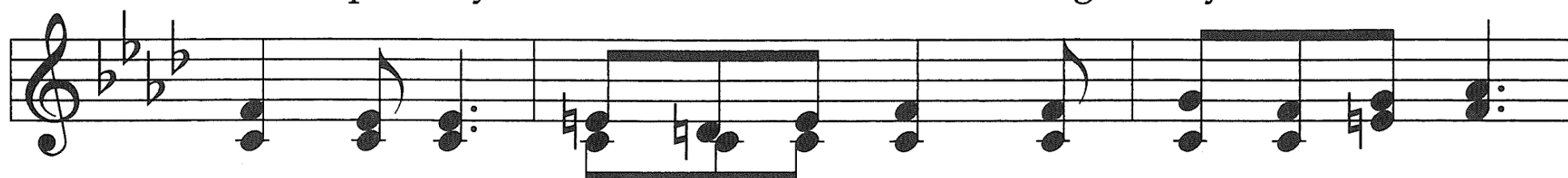
Moving Out to the World

Announcements

*Closing Hymn *"Open My Eyes, That I May See"* CH#586



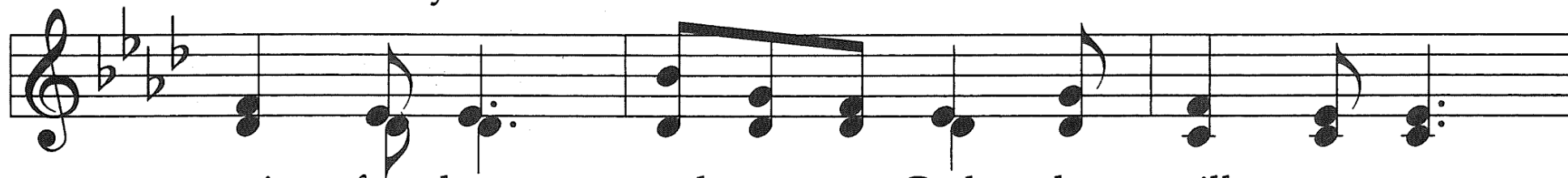
1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou
2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou
3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth



hast for me; place in my hands the won - der - ful key
send - est clear; and while the wave - notes fall on my ear,
ev - ery - where; o - pen my heart and let me pre - pare



that shall un - clasp and set me free. *Refrain*
ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I
love with thy chil - dren thus to share.



wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.



O - pen my eyes,
O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
O - pen my heart,

* Words of Blessing

Rev. Jen Chapman

Postlude

Tim K. Murphy

"We're In This Love Together"

By Roger Murrah & Keith Stegall, arranged by Brent Edstrom

Worship Ends & Worship through Service Begins

Join us for Social Hour in the Social Hall after Morning Worship!

Please **recycle** your used bulletin.

Pastor: Rev. Jen Chapman
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs by appointment
Confidential e-mail: jenchapman.acc@gmail.com
Confidential cell: (682) 557-6431 (Sabbath: Fri & Sat)
Office Administrator: Jacob Day
Office Hours: Mon, Weds, & Thurs by appointment
Office & Rentals Voicemail: (510) 526-9146 ext. 1
E-mail: acc.ucc.staff@gmail.com
Music Director: Jeffrey Frederic Paul
Accompanist/Ensemble: Tim K. Murphy
Live Audio/Video: Sean Whitman
Worship Hosts: Dawn Canada & Susan Francis
Greeters: Linda & Ken Jones
Liturgist: Caro Grosvenor
The ACC Choir: Russell Baker, Elena Caruthers,
Chieko Chambers, Joe Pratt, Larry
Brookes, Ron Yourd, Susan Yourd,
Susan Russell, & Linda Young
The ACC Bell Choir: Faith Abel, Elena Caruthers, Chieko
Chambers, Joe Pratt, June Ough,
Linda Young, Roger Abel, Ron Yourd,
& Anne Malamud
Ministers: All the Members

FIND ARLINGTON COMMUNITY CHURCH ONLINE AT:

www.arlingtoncommunitychurhucc.org

www.facebook.com/arlingtoncommunitychurhucc

Upcoming Events at Arlington Community Church

The Week at a Glance

Sun, Apr 28	11:15 AM	BMSJ Meeting in Fireside Room
Mon, Apr 29	5 & 6 PM	Choir & Bell Choir Rehearsal
Tues, Apr 30	11:00 AM	Checking In & Reaching Out
	12:00 PM	Sermon Scripture Study
Weds, May 1	9:30 AM	Mindfulness Yoga & Meditation
	7:00 PM	Midweek Sermon Reflection
Sun, May 5	10:00 AM	Morning Worship & Social Hour

Sermon Scripture Study

A weekly study group on Tuesdays at noon via ZOOM led by Pastor Jen on the sermon scripture for each upcoming Sunday. We will read the Scripture together, share initial reflections, & discuss interpretation. This week's scripture is *Acts 10:44-48 & 1 John 5:1-6*.

Mindfulness Yoga & Meditation

All levels of experience welcome (Sliding scale \$10-25 per class)

Mindful Yoga 9:30-10:30 AM:

Relate with kindness to your body and mind through basic yoga poses (modified as needed), breathing practices, and relaxation in a supportive environment. Bring a yoga mat, 2 yoga blocks, and a blanket.

Meditation 11 AM-12 PM:

Practice moment-to-moment awareness, deepening your capacity to respond to life with resilience, clarity, and heart. Includes a variety of guided meditations, gentle movement and discussion. Chairs available, bring a cushion if you prefer

Midweek Sermon Reflection

Join us in the fellowship as we dialogue and reflect on this past Sunday's sermon. Come and experience a sense of midweek renewal. This gathering, facilitated by Maria Tupua on Wednesday evenings via ZOOM at 7 PM.

Check our website for updated programming! www.arlingtoncommunitychurchucc.org/events-at-acc



Picture taken by Robert Stokstad

God calls **Arlington Community Church**
To be an Open and Affirming
Spiritual center, which welcomes people
Of all ages, races, mental and physical abilities,
Sexual orientations and gender identities
into our diverse **community**.



As a **Jubilee congregation**, we believe in
building an economy that serves, protects,
& promotes participation of the most vulnerable.



A Creation Justice Church
Where all individuals who feel called to be a "voice for
this planet" can be part of this mission, regardless of
religious affiliations.