

Sixth Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sunday, May 3, 2026



We gather as God's people for worship and to share the gifts, strengths, and talents of all who are here while respecting the beliefs, opinions and struggles of others as we strive to love one another as God loves us.

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Sixth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, May 3, 2026, 11:00 am
5th Sunday of Easter

The Sanctuary is a sacred space. The choral chimes will ring three times to let you know it is time to quiet your hearts, minds, and voices to prepare for worship.

Prelude “Marche Religieuse” “Marche Religieuse”

Welcome and Announcements

Peace Candle

Introit “Sing, Joyous Christians” Antonio Lotti

Sing, joyous Christians! Sing forth your alleluias!

Christ, our redeemer, from death is risen, Alleluia! Death and hell are conquered, Alleluia!

Christ, have mercy! Alleluia!

Call to Worship

Christ is a living stone, precious in God’s sight, and on him we build our lives.

**We are God’s people, and we proclaim God’s mighty acts,
for we have been called out of darkness and into the light.**

Once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people;

once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

With hearts lifted in praise, we come to worship.

*Hymn “Come! Live in the Light!” 749

*Prayer of the Day

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way, so clearly and fully. You have not simply told us how to live, you have shown us. But we still don’t get it. We do not believe all you have said to us; we do not trust the way you have shown us. Help us, O God. Forgive us. Open our ears to your truth, open our eyes to your way, and lead us into new life.

Silent Confession

Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Kyrie, Lord Have Mercy

579

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two lines of music. The first line contains two measures of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' are written below the notes. The second line also contains two measures of music, with the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' below. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some chords and rests.

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four lines of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some chords and rests.

Time of Wonder

Jenny Newman

*Exchange of Peace

Remembering that some of our church family is watching the livestream, let us first turn to the cameras and say, "Peace be with you!" (*turn and offer the peace.*) Being mindful of the comfort levels and boundaries of those around us, let us pass the peace of Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.

Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16 , p. 622

Second Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:2–10, p. 282

Response to the Scripture Readings

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,
thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Charissa Howe

*Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

39

*Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation to the Table

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

. . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful in every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the



pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

One: . . . Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

The Lord's Prayer

2019 Vatican Update

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

The Communion of the People

Communion Interlude

Prayer After Communion

Offertory Sentence

1 John 3:16-17

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a sister or brother in need? Remembering God's great love for the world, let us offer our lives to the Lord.



For our electronic giving option, scan QR code:

Offertory Anthem

“The Feast of Love”

Eugene Englert

Draw near and take the body of your Lord and drink with faith the blood for you outpoured. Saved by his body hallowed by his blood, with souls refreshed we render thanks to God. Salvation's giver, Christ the only Son, by his own cross and blood the victory won. Offered was he for greatest and for least, himself the victim and the priest. Let us approach with faithful hearts sincere, and take the pledges of salvation here. With heavenly bread make those who hunger whole, give living waters to the thirsting soul. Before your presence Lord, all people bow; in this your feast of love be with us now. Amen.

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

608

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

740

Benediction *All are welcome to join in singing:*

May the peace of our Lord Christ go with you wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

*Amen

599



Postlude

“Sortie”

Benedetto Marcello

Feel free to sit and enjoy the Postlude or quietly leave as you wish.

**Those who can may stand*

740

Lead Me, Guide Me

Capo 1: (D)
Refrain

(A7) (Em)
B^b7 Fm

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) (D) (A7) (D)
B^b E^b B^b7 E^b

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) (B7) (Em) (D) (A7) (D)
B^b7 C7 Fm E^b B^b7 E^b *Fine*

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) (B7) (Em) (A7) (Em)
E^b C7 Fm B^b7 Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) (D) (D) (D7)
B^b E^b E^b E^b7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) (D) (A7) (D)
Fm E^b B^b7 E^b *to Refrain*

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

Church Announcements

Today's Service:

Peter Gilmore (liturgist); Liam Greenley (livestreaming); Sara Berg, Mary Lang, Patty Halverson (ushers)

Liturgy resource: From *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, May 3, 2026. Used by permission. © 2026 Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). calltoworshipjournal.org

Coffee Hour After Service

Refreshments can be found in the chapel after worship.

Engagement Committee Meeting Today

Are you looking to get to know your fellow church members & friends better? Do you have thoughts as to how we can do better greeting new attendees and transitioning those attendees to members?

Do you have ideas as to how we can better market Sixth Presbyterian Church to the Pittsburgh Community?

Then join us today in the parlor after worship to brainstorm.

Peace and Justice Meeting, 5/10

Peace and Justice meeting in the parlor after worship next week. All are welcome to join/attend.

Recycling Pickup in Two Weeks

The next Michael's Recycling Brothers pickup will be on **Sunday, May 17th**. Nora and Cliff will transport. Please visit sixthchurch.org for instructions. Earth Care is listed under Congregational Life.

Adult Education Workshop in Schenley Park, May 30th

The spirit of the workshop will be one of warmth, wonder, open inquiry, mutual collaboration, and fun. Register now! Scan QR or go to www.sixthchurch.org homepage.



SAVE THE DATE: Worship in the Park, May 31st

Mark your calendars for our annual Worship in the Park service in Highland Park! Sunday, May 31st at 11:00AM. More details to come.

Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church:

Sunday, May 3 (after worship)

Engagement Committee Mtg (12pm, Parlor)
Coffee Hour (12pm, Chapel)
MCC (1:50-3:30pm, Parlor)
NA- Keep Coming Back Men's Mtg (8-9pm)

Monday, May 4

Connect More (6-8:30pm, *ask for details*)

Tuesday, May 5

Staff Meeting (10am, Office)
Food Justice Project (7:30-9pm, Chapel and Zoom)

Wednesday, May 6

Bible Study (10:30-11:30am, Zoom)
Pgh Bridges OCD Support (7-9, Parlor)

Thursday, May 7

Youth Group (4:30-7pm, ELPC)
Choir Rehearsal (7:30-8:30pm, Chapel)

Friday, May 8

Tri Lam (2-5pm, Parlor)

Saturday, May 9

AA-Turning Point (5-6pm)
NA-Squirrel Hill Group (7:30-8:30pm)

Sunday, May 10

Sunday School (10am)
Choir Rehearsal (10am, Sanctuary)
Worship (11am-12pm, in-person & streaming)
Coffee Hour (12pm, Chapel)
MCC (1:50-3:30pm, Parlor)
NA- Keep Coming Back Men's Mtg (8-9pm)



*Two Connect More dinners left!
Explore the history of Sixth, what it
means to be Presbyterian, and next
steps for membership & leadership.
All ages welcome.*

Please RSVP if you
would like to attend.

**Mondays though May 11
6:00-8:30 PM
Pastor Charissa's House**



Rev. Dr. Charissa Howe, *Pastor*
Jenny Newman, *Director of Christian Education*
Shay Carter McGraw, *Music Director*
Harry Kirk, *Building Administrator*
Kelly Johnson, *Office Administrator*
John S. McCall, *Pastor Emeritus*

To be added to the church newsletter email list, request pastoral care, or for any other questions or concerns, please contact us here.

