

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Welcome to the public worship of God on this

Seventh Sunday in Eastertide/Ascension of the Lord Sunday!

We gather for worship weekly, each Sunday at 11:00 am. All are Welcome!

Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.

In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

MAY 17, 2026 | 11:00AM

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

FRANKLIN RITTER

CALL TO WORSHIP

PAUL MIKALONIS

Shout for joy, sing songs of praise

for God reigns over all the earth!

God has gone up with a shout!

Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!

Give thanks to God, O faithful ones.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord!

*HYMN No. 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Too often in the season of Eastertide, we are quick to roll the stone back over the tomb. Our hallelujahs are robust and loud, but a few weeks they fade.

Nonetheless, God stands always ready to restore us to wholeness. With the confidence of God's beloved, let us confess our sins, knowing that the God who

hears us, loves us, and will forgive and renew us. Let us confess together our sins before God and one another.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Eternal God, you have loved us from generation to generation. You have shown your faithfulness more often than we can recall. The Bible tells us of your steadfast mercy. You even pray for us. Yet we live holding on to past hurts; we are not open to your new creation. We prefer the safety of what we know to the excitement of discipleship. Forgive us, we pray, and make us again as you would have us be. Restore, and strengthen us that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve your world. We make all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

* GLORIA No. 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(From your place, share signs of peace with one another.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word.

ANTHEM | CHANCEL CHOIR *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

YOUTH MOMENT

K-12th grade are invited to the "302" Room for Youth Sunday School and Children's Worship.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PAUL MIKALONIS

Come Holy Spirit, open our minds to see the power of Scripture to give life; enlighten our hearts that we might see Christ in all whom we meet; in the name of the one, holy, and living God, to whom we give all glory. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 45:1—7

PAUL MIKALONIS

ACTS | GOSPEL READING

Acts 1:1—14

John 17:1—11

REV. RICK UPCHURCH

SERMON

"No One is an Island"

REV. RICK UPCHURCH

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Having heard God's life-giving Word, we are led to responses and expressions of our faith.

* HYMN No. 468

In My Life

LORD, BE GLORIFIED

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys and Concerns | Pastoral Prayer | The Lord's Prayer

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

The gifts we share to support the ministry and mission of First Church may be placed in the offering plates at the Sanctuary entrance. Gifts may also be given online at www.fpcmilford.org or by using the QR code on the cards in your pew Thank You!

OFFERTORY *Day of Arising* RAABE

SENDING FORTH WITH THE WORD

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

* CLOSING HYMN No. 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* DIADEMATA

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

* Congregation rise in body or in spirit | Congregational responses in bold

SOURCES AND CREDITS:

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES

TODAY: 05.17.26

Seventh Sunday in Eastertide/Ascension

- Adult Sunday School | 9:30 am
- Worship | 11:00 am
- Youth/Children's SS | 11:15 am
- Fellowship Luncheon | 12pm

MONDAY:

- N. A. Meeting | 7:00 pm

TUESDAY:

- Handbells will NOT meet tonight
- N. A. Meeting | 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY:

- **Breakfast at Westside** | 9:00 am
ALL ARE WELCOME!
- MAH: "A Seat at the Table" | 5-7:00 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: 05.24.26

Day of Pentecost!

- Adult Sunday School | 9:30 am
- Worship | 11:00 am **+Holy Communion**
- Youth/Children's SS | 11:15 am

PRAYER REQUESTS

Kristin Williams, Colton Hunt,
Coleen McCann, Nancy Gabel

Food Pantry and 5¢ a meal:

Please place items in basket at Front Doors.

Special thanks to today's WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Head Usher: Ken Naegeli | Liturgist: Paul Mikalonis
Videographer: Jenna Davis

Next Week:

Ken Naegeli | Kelly Davis | Sarah H., Mark H.

STAFF:

Ann Whitman | Organist & Music Director
Ruth Mikalonis | Interim Admin/Bookkeeper
Rev. Rick Upchurch | Pastor

Worship services are also available:

On our Facebook page, on YouTube, and
on our website: www.fpcmilford.org

**SAVE THE DATES: DMI 1st Friday June 5th
Ice Cream/Game Night Aug. 27th**



*First
Presbyterian
Church*

*Sharing God's Love with All
from the Heart of Milford*

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE / ASCENSION

May 17, 2026

First Presbyterian Church of Milford

101 S. Walnut Street | Milford, DE 19963 | 302.422.5701

www.fpcmilford.org