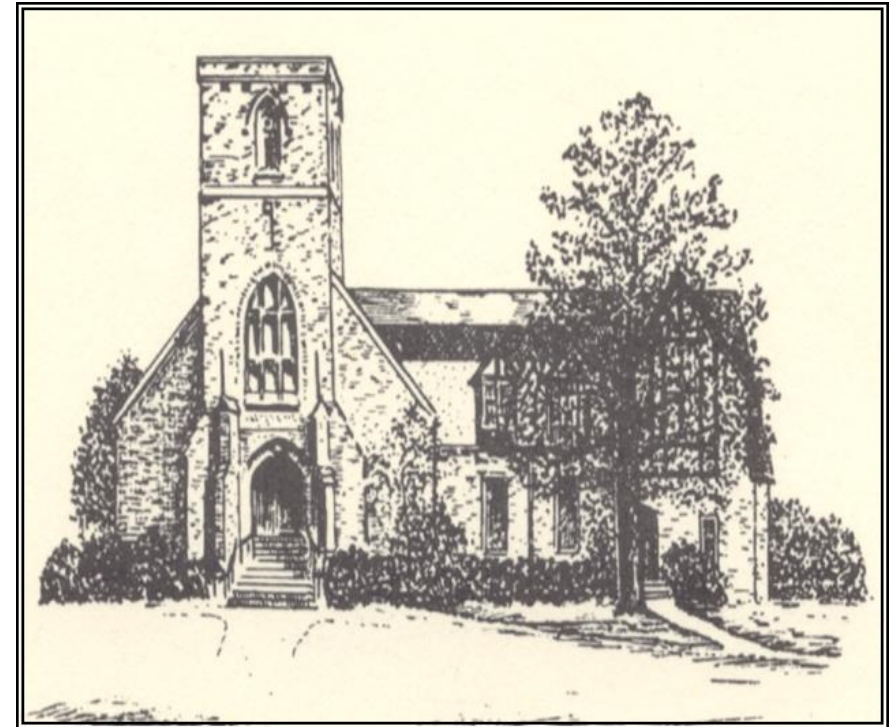


* Prayer for peace through hymn UMH #431 “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Postlude: “Shine, Jesus, Shine” Hanna Noh



Asbury United Methodist Church
May 21, 2023 9:30 A.M.
143 Ann Mary Brown Drive
Warwick, RI 02888
(401) 467-5122

Pastor
Rev. Yohan Go

Seventh Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER

Music for Gathering (Prelude) “Go, Make of All Disciples”

Welcome and Announcements

Asbury Mission Statement

We are Asbury! Abundantly thankful to God; Saved by Christ's resurrection; Blessed by God; United by Christ's love for each of us; Reaching out to our church family and our community; Yearning to tell the Good News to all by being Christ's voice, hands, and feet in the world.

Announcements

1. Have you ever heard about the 2023 Asbury revival? There was a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Asbury University's campus early this year, and Asbury UMC has invited a student who was there. We will hear his testimony on June 4th at 9:30 a.m. Please mark it on your calendar and come to hear how God still works today.
2. We will have a worship leader workshop tomorrow at 7 p.m. through zoom. If you are worship leaders, please join this meeting.
3. The church council will meet on May 23rd at 7 p.m. through zoom.

as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Offering Invitation

Interlude: “When the Trumpet of The Lord Shall Sound”

Doxology *Old 100th*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know,
Praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow,
Praise Three-in-One, from here below.**

Offering prayer

Rev. Yohan Go

* Closing hymns: UMH #664 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

* **Benediction**

Rev. Yohan Go

(based on Psalm 16)

As we close this time together, remember:
God is always with you. No matter what you face,
no matter what trials or hardships come your way,
God is right beside you, urging you to gratitude,
guiding and directing your path.
So, acknowledge your fear and your worry
and know it is as true and holy as any feeling,
including joy and hope and love.
Take heart! This is the heart of the matter.
Amen.

third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Look, I'm sending to you what my [Abba, God] promised, but you are to stay in the city until you have been furnished with heavenly power."

He led them out as far as Bethany, where he lifted his hands and blessed them. As he blessed them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. They worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem overwhelmed with joy. And they were continuously in the temple praising God. - Luke 24: 44-53

A Word of God that is still speaking,
Thanks be to God.

Songs of Illumination
UMH#393 Spirit of the Living God vs1

Sermon: We are Witnesses Rev. Yohan Go

Prayers of the People
Hymn TFWS #2129 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus x1

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral prayer Rev. Yohan Go

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses,

4. If you have announcements to share with Asbury, please give them to Pastor Yohan or Lori by Wednesday.

Birthdays

- 15 David Humphrey
19 Lisa Keene
20 Chuck Main

Opening Act of Centering Our Hearts as One

Leader: We have been celebrating Easter for an entire season and next week, Pentecost, is the last week of the Easter Season. But just like Jesus has been reminding his disciples since the resurrection, this is not the end of his presence with the world, but the beginning of how we will carry his heart within ours. And so it is. As we gather together today, and every time that we gather together—physically, virtually, in small groups or simply together in our memory of one another, Christ is still with us:

*"Day by day, as they **spent much time together** in the temple, they **broke bread at home** and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, **praising God** and **having the goodwill** of all the people." (Acts 2: 46-47a)*

Creating a "temple" of worship in our hearts that connects us across boundaries, distance and time is one of the ways we stay connected. At the "heart of the matter," we are connected through the Spirit that makes us one in love.

Opening Act of Centering Our Hearts as One

We are going to center our hearts as one to begin.

Let's take a deep breath together.

I invite you to place your hand on your heart and let's lightly tap together in a slow heartbeat rhythm

Holy Living God,
Heartbeat of Creation,
help us to take this time to center on you,
for you made us,
you gave us life,
and you continue to be with us
every moment...
every breath...
every step.

Pastor: Hear this assurance from God:

[sing to the tune of Amazing Grace]

**Be still, O heart, you're not alone,
your beat is shared with me.
Come now, and calm, and center here,
you're mine, secure and free.**

Let's take another deep breath, making sure our shoulders and any tension we feel in our bodies is letting go with the breath.

Let's take another one.

Let us imagine letting go of our worries for now into God's heart of love.

We offer a prayer song of letting go:

[sing to the tune of Amazing Grace]

**Into your care, we offer now,
our worries, fears and strife.**

**We turn to you and know you're near—
Your light, our love and life.**

Let's light our candles now.

**Opening Hymn/Song
UMH #577 "God of Grace and God of Glory" vs. 1,3,4**

The Peace

**WE PROCLAIM
The Word in Music (Choir) "Here I Am Lord"**

Scripture reading

Luke 24: 44-53

Leader: Today we commemorate the moment when the disciples witnessed Jesus' leaving this physical world. He had spent some quality time with them, helping them understand more about their faith and the continued mission that they must now carry on in the world. He asked them to encourage people to a change of heart—to believe in hope and life and love that was his message on earth. As we often do when we take our leave from someone we love, Jesus blessed his followers.

Reader:

Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the