



# Carmichael Presbyterian Church

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER & COMMUNION

May 2, 2021

*In-Person Worship*

8:45 a.m.

PRELUDE

Zorana Randjelovic-Flores

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura Janik

CALL TO WORSHIP (from 1 John 4:7-8,11)

Laura Janik

Leader: Beloved, let's love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. Anyone who doesn't love does not know God, because God is love. Since God loves us, we also ought to love each other.

**People: Come, let's worship God who is love!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Laura Janik

Leader: The steadfast love of God endures forever. Nothing we say or do can limit God's grace. As we are God's beloved, we admit the truth of our shortcomings and failures, confident that God's love will heal our brokenness. Let us pray in confession together:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you are the giver of life. You have made us in your image, yet we fail to see your image in our neighbors who look, speak, and live differently than we do. You have made us in your image, yet we still need forgiveness as we ignore your creative work and fail to exhibit your image to the world around. You have made us in your image, yet there are times when we have trouble loving ourselves and tending to our own needs. When we fall short in loving, we refuse your invitation to grow closer to you. Through your abiding love and mercy, open us to the ways we can love more fully.**

SONG & SILENT MEDITATION

Zorana Randjelovic-Flores

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The one who breathed into us the breath of life continues to be present with us. God, who reflected in us God's own image has made us into a new creation. Our sins are forgiven. Let us go forth with love and peace, upholding the sacred worth of all others as we travel along this road.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>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.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>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.

SERMON

*Horizons and Mirrors*

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE ELEMENTS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(You are now invited to partake of the bread and cup.)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

OFFERING

Harvey Swenson

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Zorana Randjelovic-Flores

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Harvey Swenson

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

PARTING MUSIC

Zorana Randjelovic-Flores

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Communion liturgy adapted from "The Sacrament of Holy Communion Celebrating Immigrants and Refugees" by Michael Mulberry on [giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com](http://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com)

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