

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service on the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*May 2, 2021*

Welcome

Prelude: Reflection on “Beach Spring” – Ryan H. Jones

Call to Worship

In the wilderness, water brings life.

**Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

**Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**

In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior  
nourishes everyone.

**Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.**

Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.

Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

Prayer of the Day

**Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new  
in water and Word,**

**feeding your people with love, joy, and peace.**

**Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings.**

**Teach us to love what you have commanded**

**and to prune what does not nourish your creation,**

**in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,**

**one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn #401: Here in This Place

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy,**

**we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit.**

**We have not loved others as you have loved us.**

**We have denied the promises of baptism  
and cut ourselves off from you.**

**Forgive us, restore us,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and live out your mercy,**

**for the sake of Jesus Christ,**

**in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria #582: *Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Gospel Lesson: John 15:1-8

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

Sermon: God Is Love

Hymn #509: *All Who Hunger*

Invitation to the Table

Special Music: *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name*

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.**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer After Communion

Hymn #765: *May the God of Hope Go With Us*

Charge & Blessing

Postlude: *Praise the King!* – Ruth Elaine Schram

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, used by permission.*