

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER
ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN
May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE	MEDITATION*	CHURCH BELL
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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ruth Frost, Moderator

INTROIT: Choir

*OPENING HYMN: # 495 "They'll Know We Are Christians"

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Jesus reminded the disciples

All: Love one another as I have loved you.

One: Jesus taught and witnessed to God's love.

All: Love one another as I have loved you.

One: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness, compassion and hope.

All: Let us love one another as Christ loved us.

*THE GLORIA PATRI: #558

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (unison)

Ever-present God,

We give thanks that you have made your dwelling place among your people.

We trust your promises of a just future, and we wish to play our part.

Christ has taught us to love one another.

Help us to keep this commandment in our minds and hearts,

that we might come to realize the new heaven and new earth awaiting us. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: # 377 "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

Reception of New Members

SERMON: Rev. Joe Hackett

SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir

SHARING OUR LIVES TOGETHER:

Thanksgivings
Concerns of the Community

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Silent Prayer

Prayers of Adoration

Community Prayer for the People

Loving God, we know you accompany us even when we do not see it. We lift up to you the joys and sorrows of our lives. We pray all this in the name of the one who came to give abundant life, as we pray together the prayer your son Jesus taught us, saying:

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

SHARING OUR GIFTS:

Call to Giving

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Receive these gifts this morning, O God, author of every good gift.

Out of the bounty of our hearts, we respond with faithful generosity and love.

May these gifts become blessings for others as they have been blessing for us. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN: # 463 "I Love To Tell The Story"

*BENEDICTION:

May the love of God which was lavished upon you by Jesu Christ be in your hearts, your minds and your spirits as you go forth into God's world. Be bearers of peace and hope to all you meet, and my God's peace be with you always.

POSTLUDE:

* Denotes that all who are able should stand

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 13:31-35