

Asbury United Methodist Church

WORSHIP BOOKLET

1401 CAMDEN AVENUE · SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21801 · 410-749-2131 · WWW.ASBURYWEB.ORG

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 28, 2024

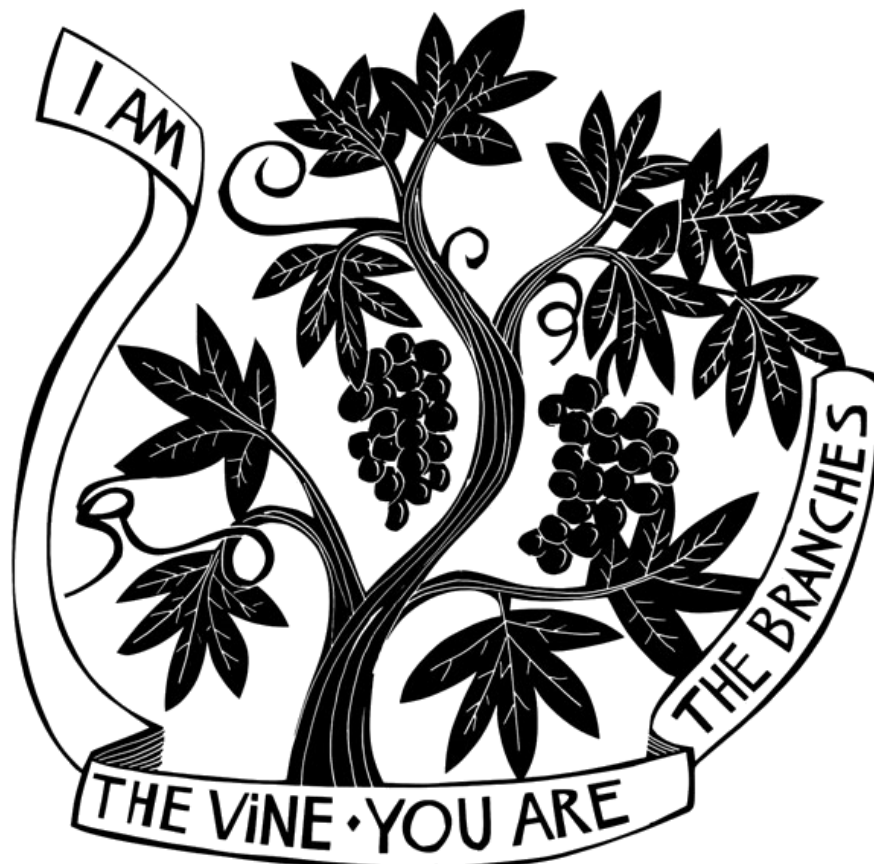
We welcome all to worship and thank you for choosing Asbury Church.

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

Nursery Care is provided in Room 122.

The playground will still be available for children during CAYR.

Sunday School for all ages is at 10:00 a.m.



JOHN 15:1-8

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for the family of Anne Miller, for all families experiencing loss or illness, and for the following:

Bailey Family	Pam Micallef	Active Military & Veterans
Sheri Burchard	Ed Moore	All affected by Mass Shootings
Caldwell Family	Leslie Nielsen	All who are Lonely
Lauren and Lorie Cataldi	Teresa Peters	Asbury in Transition
Sylvia Chiofolo	Mary Pines	CAYR Praise Band and Sound Techs
Carrie Connelly	Marlene Pulhamus	Cure for Coronavirus
Kathy Donovan	Trauffine Purnell	Haiti, Afghanistan, Ukraine
Ashley Fairbanks	Bryan Records	Healthcare Workers
Steve and Kelly Garner	Sandy Rhodes	Immigrant Families
Carolyn Gruber	Sarwari family	Law Enforcement Officers
Larry and Judy Hamilton	Leya Schiller	LGBTQ Community
Ray Hoffman	Josie Smith	Our Schools and Children
Kris Kunkel	Mary Sullivan	Peace in the Holy Land
Marlene LeFever	Emerson Thomas	Racial Justice
Marilyn Mann	Kim Timmons	Victims of Natural Disasters
Carl McIntyre	Kim Yobst	Victims of Violence
	Penny Ziegler	Victims of the Key Bridge Collapse

Please contact Heather@asburyweb.org or the church office to request bulletin prayers. Please get permission from individual before asking for their name to be published.

The Prayer Group at Asbury continues to pray weekly for the many concerns lifted up to them. Please keep this prayer ministry in your thoughts and consider joining with them for healing and peace for all.

If you need prayer during the week, please contact Tom or Heather at the church, or Carol Bisker at (410) 749-3563.



Emily Saulsbury, Chair

Marilyn Batie

Jean Laws

Brenda Martin

Lou Elin Sheller

***** If you would like to have flowers placed on the altar, please call the church office.**

Early Morning Asbury

8:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Those leading worship today include:

Lay Reader: *Vic Laws* / Head Usher: *Rick Bisker*

Greeter: *Carol Bisker & Gail Kestler* / Sound: *Gary Tyler*

Organist: *Dr. Jeff S. Baer*



✿ *Designates your invitation to stand*

Prelude Prelude in D Major J. K. F. Fischer

Welcome & Announcements

✿ **Passing the Peace of Christ**

✿ **Opening Hymn** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* UMH No. 203

✿ **Greeting:**

One: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

Many: **We abide in Love.**

One: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

Many: **We have no life apart from that Love.**

One: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

Many: **We produce the fruit of Love.**

One: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love?

Many: **We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another.**

Affirmation of Faith

UMH No. 883

Opening Prayer:

Holy One, we need not listen for a distant thunder to find you, Oh God. We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat. We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives. Amen.

First Lesson, Acts 8:26-40 (*Scripture found on page 10*)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson, 1 John 4:7-21 (*Scripture found on pages 10-11*)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

I Need Thee Every Hour

UMH No. 397

✿ **The Gospel Lesson, John 15:1-8** (*Scripture found on page 11*)

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed!

Message

Holy Water

Pastor Tom Pasmore

Prayers and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer (*See Back Page*)

Offering

Offertory

Psalm of Glory

Dorothy Wells

✿ **Doxology**

UMH No. 94

✿ **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

✿ **Sending Forth**

✿ **Closing Hymn** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

UMH No. 384

Postlude

Hymn to Joy

Richard Ellisasser

CAYR Worship Service

8:45 a.m. Modern Service in the Fellowship Hall

Those leading worship today include:

Lay Reader:

Sound: *TBD*



✿ *Designates your invitation to stand*

Welcome & Announcements

Brooke Christensen

Ministry Moment

May's Spiritual Practice

Kristen Wall-Love

✿ Passing the Peace of Christ

✿ Opening Song 1

My Lighthouse

Praise Band

✿ Opening Song 2

*You Are My King
(Amazing Love)*

Praise Band

First Lesson, Acts 8:26-40 (*Scripture found on page 10*)

Second Lesson, 1 John 4:7-21 (*Scripture found on pages 10-11*)

Special Music

A Little More

Jennifer Knapp

The Strangely Warmed Hearts Club

Children's Message

Puppets for Christ

Prayers and Concerns

Olivia Imirie

The Lord's Prayer (*See Back Page*)

Offering Our Gifts

Kristen Wall-Love

Offertory

Holy Water

Praise Band

✿ **The Gospel Lesson, John 15:1-8** (*Scripture found on page 10*)

Message

Holy Water

Pastor Tom Pasmore

✿ **Sending Forth**

✿ **Closing Song**

You Never Let Go

Praise Band

Asbury Special Project

The ASP team has continued the fundraising efforts and we only have 1 event left. Finally, our last fundraiser will be a Car Wash on May 19.



Confirmation

We have 5 confirmands this year! Gabby Love, Carter Bailey, Caroline Holloway, Gillian Houlihan, and Charlotte Houlihan. It is always so much fun when the whole congregation participates in our ***Confirmation Blessing Bins***. If you aren't too familiar with our confirmands, click the button for a list of their favorite things. Confirmation Sunday will be May 19.

VBS Decorating Coordinator Needed!

One of the most delightful parts of Vacation Bible School is watching the kids' faces light up as they enter Fellowship Hall and are immediately transported into the theme. This year's theme is 'Camp Firelight-A Summer Camp Adventure with God'. Do you have an eye for creating exciting spaces? Then we would love your help transforming Fellowship Hall and the hallways into a woodland adventure! Contact Heather at Heather@asburyweb.org, 410-749-2131, or in person if you'd like to find out more!

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 14-17, 2024!

What's happening in Kids' Sunday School in April/May?

- April 28: Family Sunday School—Helping with the Pollinator Gardens!
- May 5: Last Day of Sunday School—ASP Assembly!

Don't forget to send in those weekly offerings for the ASP challenge!

Festive Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Those leading worship today include:

Lay Reader:

Head Usher: *Steve Donovan* / Sound: *Rick Holloway*

Pianist: *Pat Davis*



Welcome and Announcements

Brooke Christensen

Ministry Moment

May's Spiritual Practice

Kristen Wall-Love

✿ Passing the Peace of Christ

Opening Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH No. 384

✿ Greeting:

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Affirmation of Faith

UMH No. 883

Opening Prayer:

Holy One, we need not listen for a distant thunder to find you, Oh God. We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat. We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives. Amen.

Special Music

A Little More
The Strangely Warmed Hearts Club

Jennifer Knapp

First Lesson, Acts 8:26-40 (*Scripture found on page 10*)

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Children's Message

Puppets for Christ

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Addison Rae Landon

Daughter of *Josh and Alexis Landon*

Hymn

To God Be the Glory

UMH No. 98

✠ **The Gospel Lesson, John 15:1-8** (*Scripture found on page 11*)

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed!

Message

Holy Water

Pastor Tom Pasmore

Prayers and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer (*See Back Page*)

Offering

Offertory

He Never Failed My Yet

R. Ray

Chancel Choir;
Pat Davis, pianist

✿ **Doxology**

UMH No. 94

✿ **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

✿ **Sending Forth**

Choral Benediction

Alleluia

J. Sinclair

Chancel Choir;
Pat Davis, pianist

✿ **Closing Hymn**

My Jesus, I Love Thee

UMH No. 172

NOTES

NEXT STEPS

1. Reread the scriptures.
2. What are you having trouble understanding? _____

3. Are you ready to take the next step in your faith? _____

SCRIPTURES

Acts 8:26-40 (New Revised Standard Version)

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.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

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

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

1 John 4:7-21 (Contemporary English Version)

My dear friends, we must love each other. Love comes from God, and when we love each other, it shows we have been given new life. We are now God's children, and we know him. God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known him. God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life. Real love isn't our love for God, but his love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven. Dear friends, since God loved us this much, we must love each other.

[Cont'd on next page]

No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is truly in our hearts.

God has given us his Spirit. This is how we know we are one with him, just as he is one with us. God sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. We saw his Son and are now telling others about him. God stays one with everyone who openly says Jesus is the Son of God. This is how we stay one with God and are sure God loves us.

God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us. If we truly love others and live as Christ did in this world, we won't be worried about the day of judgment. A real love for others will chase those worries away. The thought of being punished is what makes us afraid. It shows we have not really learned to love.

We love because God loved us first. But if we say we love God and don't love each other, we are liars. We cannot see God. So how can we love God, if we don't love the people we can see? The commandment that God has given us is: "Love God and love each other!"

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

John 10:11-18 (New International Version)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

One: Christ is risen!

Many: **Christ is risen, indeed!**

Church Office Hours

Beginning Wednesday May 1 the church office hours will be open Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The spiritual practice for May is *Visio Divina*, or “sacred seeing.” This is an ancient form of Christian prayer where we allow our hearts and imaginations to prayerfully engage with an image.

Here’s how it works:

1. Pick out an image from a website, a photograph, painting, or icon. Nature can also be used as an “image.” I will be providing images via email each week for those who sign up, or use your own. Mark “spiritual practice of the month” on your connection card or email me: kristen@asburyweb.org to get on the weekly list.
2. Look at the image and let your eyes stay with the very first thing that you see. Keep your attention on that one part of the image that first catches your eye. Try to keep your eyes from wandering to other parts of the picture. Breathe deeply and let yourself gaze at that part of the image for a minute or so.
3. Now, let your eyes gaze at the whole image. Take your time and look at every part of the art. See it all. Reflect on the image for a minute or so.
4. Consider the following questions:
 - a) What emotions does this image evoke in you?
 - b) What does the image stir up in you, bring forth in you?
 - c) Does this image lead you into an attitude of prayer? If so, let these prayers take form in you. Write them down if you desire.
5. Now, offer your prayers to God in a final time of silence.

April Flower Power Day TODAY from 3pm-5pm

The Church and Society Committee invites all Asburians to come and help with the spring clean-up the native plant gardens in the south parking lot islands.

Weather permitting- drinks and snacks provided! Wear your hat, bring your gloves and small garden tools like trowels and weeders, if you have them. **All are welcome!**

You who dwell in the gardens, my companions are listening for your voice; let me hear it. **Song of Solomon 8:13 (RSV)**

ASBURY NEWS

Asbury Child Development Center celebrates 60 years!

Please join us for the Dedication of our New Playground and Memorial Area on Sunday, May 5 from 12 noon to 2 pm. Puppets for Christ will perform at 12:15 pm in the outdoor classroom located next to the playground, followed by the Dedication ceremony at 12:30 pm.

Come and enjoy children's games, a visit by Harry the Donkey and his friend, Baby Goat, meet beekeeper Cindi Hildreth, and take a self-guided tour of our beautifully renovated school. Bring your friends and family, we look forward to see you there!

Lunch and Learn

May 5: DeMyra Harvey, Coordinator of Project READ, Wicomico Public Library. *The mission is to increase the literacy rates in our county.*

Lunch and Learn will be held from 12:15 p.m.- 1:45 p.m. in the Mackey Room following the 11:00 a.m. service. A light lunch will be served prior to a talk and conversation with our guest speakers. Voluntary donations only. Please RSVP if possible to Lydia in the church office for purposes of room setup and lunch planning. (But please feel free to come even if you have not RSVP'd!) 410-749-2131.

Community Prayer Vigil

On **Sunday, May 5, at 6pm in the Sanctuary here at Asbury**, there will be a Community Prayer Vigil sponsored by the Watchmen with One Voice Ministerial Alliance. Elected officials and Law Enforcement have been invited to gather with us and pray about healing, growing, and transforming our community and nation through the power of prayer. Join us for worship and prayer.

Women's Retreat 2024 is around the corner--all women welcome!

Gift yourself some renewal time at Pecometh's Riverview Retreat Center May 24-27. Cost is 350.00 (double) and 525.00 (single). No roommate, no problem--we can help! The registration form is in the Welcome Centers with all the details.

DEADLINE May 15. If you need financial assistance, please contact Kristen, kristen@saburyweb.org.

Greeting Coordinator Needed!

Are enthusiasm and organizing gifts of yours? We are looking for a person to coordinate the greeters for the Festive 11:00 am worship service so that all may be warmly and intentionally welcomed. Contact kristen@saburyweb.org if you are interested.

UPDATE FROM THE SARWARI'S

UPDATE FROM FRONT ROYAL – AZIM AND FAMILY

I am very lucky because out of the blue I got a telephone call from Azim last week. It is his way to continually thank Asbury and all of those who have supported and helped him, but it is also checking in on how people are doing.

Of course, I turn the conversation around and want to know how they are doing. As with all transitions they never go quickly enough.

Azim continues to work very hard, and his company is always giving him extra opportunities to earn extra cash when possible. Frequently that means 12 hour days. Tahmina has remained at home with Farman, but the good news is he will start pre-school as soon as he turns four. May 3rd is his birthday!!!! Tahmina will then continue with her goal of getting her license. Abdul and Asenat continue to flourish in school and we also have a wonderful singer that has emerged in the school talent show. She has a beautiful voice and stage presence.

They miss Salisbury and all their friends so please keep reaching out. A note, text or card means a lot. Their home is isolated and they are not in a neighborhood.

They also are looking for a small, second car for Tahmina. They can pay \$4000-\$6000 for it. If you or anyone you know has a good, reliable used car, please let me know.

The best news is that they have been contacted by a church in Front Royal. The church reaches out to them frequently and wants them to do a program explaining their voyage to the U.S. and also to teach them about their culture and foods. It is reminiscent of their time in Salisbury.

Address: 190 Deer Pl Ct
Strasburg VA 22657

From: *Barbara Whitehead*

Chair Yoga

You are invited to attend some gentle/chair yoga, *every MONDAY at noon*. Plan on 30-45 minutes, including a time of prayer.

Opportunity Shop

Donations:

- Monday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Or call the church for an appointment!

Sales:

- Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

158 W. Market Street, Salisbury, MD. Check us out on Facebook.

Looking for ways to help? We need volunteers to work as cashiers on Thursdays, and if you are cleaning out your closets, we need household items and clothing! All items need to be clean and functional. Tax receipts available.

Salisbury Urban Ministries Donation requests for April:

Lazarus Food Pantry

- Ramon noodles
- Vienna sausages

Kids Cafe

- Individual fruit cups (mandarin oranges, fruit cocktail, peaches)

Men's Welcome Center

- Corn Beef Hash
- Potted Meat
- Spam
- Vienna Sausages

SUM Information Center

SUM has now have its own information center, located at the Main Welcome Center by the Narthex. Flyers for monthly donation requests and other special project information can be found here.

Please drop off your donations in/near the large pots in sanctuary hallway. If you prefer to order online, have your donations delivered to: Salisbury Urban Ministries, 326 Barclay St., Salisbury, MD 21804. Or call 410-749-1563.

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

APRIL/MAY MEETINGS/EVENTS SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Time	Meeting/Event
30	Tue	10:00 a.m.	Altar Guild
5/1	Wed	6:00 p.m.	SPRC
5/8	Wed	7:00 p.m.	Leadership Team
5/9	Thu	5:30 p.m.	Finance Committee
5/14	Tue	5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees

*** Meetings are subject to change, please check with church office for verification of date, time and location. All meetings will be held in the Library, unless other arrangements are made.

*** Attention: To email any staff member at Asbury email: "first name" @asburyweb.org.***

Pastoral Staff:

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Tom Pasmore

Directors of Ministries:

Music Ministries:

TBA

Finance & Building:

Janice Ilczuk

Children & Care

Ministries:

Heather Harman

Adult Spiritual Formation and Membership:

Rev. Kristen Wall-Love

Youth & Family Ministries:

Brooke Christensen

Asbury Child

Development Center:

Casey Taylor, Danna Abbott

Church Support Staff:

Admin. Office Manager:

Lydia Childs

Administrative Assistant:

Sheri Burchard

Maintenance Worker:

Bob Love

Nursery Staff:

Joy Bradshaw, Karrinea Brimer, Katie Gallagher, Megan Cropper, Sydney Cropper, Tess DeBastiani,

Bethany Pasmore, Ashlee Plotts,

Conference Staff:

Bishop:

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling

District Superintendent:

Rev. Christina Blake

Conference Office:

Rev. Jacqueline Ford

Salisbury Urban Ministries:

Debbie Donaway

SU Campus Minister:

Brooke Christensen

*** If you would like to add a church-related announcement to the Asbury News section, please email lydia@asburyweb.org at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

