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*The People of God in Worship*  
*May 13, 2018*  
*Eleven O'Clock in the Morning*

*Ascension of the Lord*  
*and Seventh Sunday of Easter*

**THE GREETING**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

To our Guests, Members, and Friends: In the pew rack you will find a small brochure to give us the opportunity to get to know you and serve you better. Fill in where appropriate, and place it in the collection plate. Welcome and thank you!

**THE CHIMES**

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit.

**THE PRELUDE**

Please consider the prelude as an invitation to quietly, reverently prepare yourself for worship.

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mr. Gus Hermosa

Leader: When the wind blows,

**People: I am not forgotten;**

Leader: When there is destruction all around,

**People: I am not forgotten;**

Leader: For the Lord knows my name

**People: I have heard and believed**

Leader: And the roots of my faith go deep

**People: My words are truth and my language is love.**

**All: We are not forgotten and we will not be moved.**

**\*INVOCATION AND THE GLORIA PATRI**

Mrs. Mimi Hermosa and The Community

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

**THE FIRST READING**

Psalm 1

Mr. Gus Hermosa

Leader: A word for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**THE SECOND READING**

1 John 5:9-13

Mrs. Mimi Hermosa

Leader: A word for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**THE ANTHEM**

*The Sweetest Name I Know*

David Foley

**THE MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

*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 and ever. Amen.*

**\*THE OFFERTORY HYMN No. 355**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

**THE GIFTS**

\*Offertory Moment and Prayer

Mrs. Mimi Hermosa

Offertory

\*Doxology - No. 815

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**THE MESSAGE**

*Following the River*

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

**THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself at this time. If you prefer not to present yourself, you may speak to the minister after the service to effect membership. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a profession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to renew their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

**\*HYMN No. 682**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**\*CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

**\*THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Walk With the Lord*

Kevin D. Thomson

**\*THE POSTLUDE**

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- \* The ushers will seat those waiting.
  - \* Those who are able will please stand.
  - \* Hearing aids are available from the ushers.

Copies of last week's sermon and the prayer list are in the narthex.

*The beautiful flowers in the worship room today are given by Linda Williams  
in honor of her aunt, Carlease Burnette, and in loving memory of her mother, Ann Samuels.*

Offertory Emphasis

The Adult Care Center here in Lynchburg is located downtown in Court Street United Methodist Church. The Center ministers to adults not capable of living independently who need daytime supervision and benefit from stimulation, structure, and support. It provides families needed relief from caregiving and allows delay in institutional care for a loved one as long as possible. Your mission gift helps provide a variety of health, social, and support services in a protected setting during daytime hours.

Please join me in prayer.

*We offer our encouragement and support to the Adult Care Center in providing a safe and supervised environment while meeting the individual needs of adults with health care issues. Amen*