


In an effort to share the Gospel far and wide, Bath Church records its services and events for broadcast on the internet. Your attendance at a service or event constitutes your consent to be included in any filming, photographing, audio recording, or broadcast and for any other use in whole or in part, including publicity and promotion. If you prefer to avoid being filmed or photographed, please sit in the balcony.

### **LOOKING AHEAD AT THE BATH CHURCH**

- TODAY – Come As You Are Worship Service @11am  
May 5 – Welcome New Members @9am with reception after worship  
May 5 – Hunger Walk @3pm Begins at Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron  
May 5 – Dessert Auction & Talent Show @5pm  
May 9 – Women of Faith @10:30am  
May 11 – Spring Clean Up @9am  
May 17 – Music at Bath Concert Series - Wit's Folly @7pm  
May 19 – Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday @9am – reception after worship  
May 19 – Music at Bath Concert Series – Singers Company @4pm  
May 25 – Worship on the Lawn (weather permitting) @10am  
(Our 10am summer worship time begins.)  
May 27 – Church Offices Closed – Memorial Day  
June 2 – Annual Meeting immediately after 10am worship  
June 8 – Bath Community Garage Sale  
June 15 – 21 - Youth Work Camp – Fredrick, Maryland  
June 23 – Music at Bath Concert Series - Broadway on the Lawn

**No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!** 

The Bath Church, United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming and Stephen Ministry Congregation  
3980 W. Bath Rd. Akron, OH 44333  
330.666.3520 bathucc@bathucc.org



Your generosity supports the mission and ministry of The Bath Church. Thank you!



## **The Bath Church + April 28, 2024**

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*The Bath Church, United Church of Christ, is an open and affirming congregation. We welcome and affirm YOU and all people of every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical or cognitive ability, race, age, ethnicity, family circumstance, and social and economic status to the full life and ministry of our church. We strive to be a safe place, free from the fear of judgment, where wounds can heal, and differences and inclusivity are celebrated. We declare this in the everlasting grace of the Still-Speaking God.*

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND AUDIO AIDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS**

*\* You are invited to stand in body or spirit*

**Welcome to The Bath Church!**

The Rev. Dr. Cindy Parker

One: Where we believe no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,

All: **you are welcome here!**

**Reaching Out & Building Beloved Community**

**Messages from our Mission Ministry**

Jane Bechtel

**Message from our Director of Youth and Family Ministries**

Eric Hankins

**Prelude**

*Fantasy: Easter Hymn, William H. Harris (1883-1973)*

Jeff Sonoda, organ

**Opening Prayer based on John 15 (together)**

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn #311**

*Now the Green Blade Rises* vss. 1, 3, 4

**Gospel Story**                      “The Vine and the Branches”                      John 15:1-8 (MSG)

**Anthem**                      *Thou True Vine, That Heals, “Pleading Savior”*, arr. Lee Dengler  
Bath Church *Octet Viva Voce*

**Message for all God’s Children**

**Prayer of Confession** *(together)*

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-in whose name we pray...

**Time of Silent Confession**

**Words of Grace**

**Pastoral Prayer & 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**Invitation to Generosity**

**Offertory**    *Christ the Lord Is Risen Again*, setting by David Thorne  
Jeff Sonoda, organ

**\*Doxology #306**                      *Alleluia! Jesus is Risen* v. 1

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** *(together)*

Lord of the one true vine, in you we live and move and have our being.  
We are your branches, spindly and slight and fragile. Please God, prune us gently, we want to bear more of your fruit.

**God is Still Speaking**                      “Threat or Promise?”                      The Rev. Dr. Cindy Parker

**\*Sending Hymn #320**                      *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus* vss. 1, 3

**\*Invitation to join us next week**

**\*Blessing**

**\*Blessing Response** *(together)*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you, each hour of every day.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

**Postlude**                      *The Risen Christ*, setting by Benjamin Culli  
Jeff Sonoda, organ

Bath Church *Octet Viva Voce*  
Tara O’Brien, Jill Hornickel, soprano  
Sarah Hutchins, Timothy Eck, alto  
Michael Lada, Arne Hosbach, tenor  
John Semenik, Jeff Sonoda, bass

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*When our worship is over, our service begins.  
Go and serve the world God loves in Jesus’ name.*