



**Bradford Woods
Community Church**

WELCOME!

Sunday Worship

May 12, 2024

*Happy Mother's Day & Happy
Ascension Sunday*

Welcoming Hymn: #100 *Satisfied*

Announcements:

Join us Wednesday nights from 6p-8p down in the community room for Bible Study on the popular series *The Chosen*. We watch, reflect and discuss. Each week is a separate topic, so join us when you can! Feel free to bring a snack to share if you'd like but not required.

All are welcome to join us for Prayer on Fridays at 4pm. We gather in the sitting area outside of the Pastor's office.

Are there any other announcements from the floor?

Call To Worship: (Leader)

Come to the vineyard of God.

We seek Christ, the vine of great love.

Drink from the waters of life.

We live in the light of God's grace.

Come to the vineyard of God.

All are welcome here.

Opening Hymn: #312 *Some Golden Daybreak*

Prayer of Illumination: (Leader)

Abide with us and within us, O Holy One.

Transform us into branches of your love, bearing fruit that feeds and nourishes a world hungry for kindness and compassion.

Strengthen us that we may grow into your likeness with courage and conviction.

Live in us, that we may live in you, and live as your abiding presence in the world. In faith and trust, we pray. Amen.

1st Reading: (Leader) John 15:1-5

Hymn: #386 *Thanks God To My Redeemer*

Prayer of Transformation: (Pastor)

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came into the world to save sinners. We therefore, confess, holy and merciful God, our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light, and abide in your ways as we silently confess our sins to you...

Declaration of Forgiveness: (Pastor)

Psalm 70:4, which is a prayer for deliverance, says this: "Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, 'God is great!'" (NRSV) Sisters and brothers, Jesus grants us forgiveness, love, and salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **GOD IS GOOD!**

Prayers of The People: (Pastor)

For all the blessings of this life, we give thanks to You, Creator God.

For families, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers, who nurture us, that the love of God may grow within. That Your love, your Word, like a seed, may grow to produce in us, good fruit.

God says: "I am the vine and you are the branches.

(All): Abide in me as I abide in you."

For the leaders of various nations and cities, that they may lead with strong hearts and gentle hands and generous spirits, with compassion and mercy, with wisdom and grace. May they reflect your will guiding all their actions and decisions.

(All): Abide in me as I abide in you.

For those who serve in harm's way, those who live in dangerous places, those who live in areas of war and strife, those who live in fear, those who worry about employment, bills, food, and struggle just to find dignity in life. May your grace bring peace and safety to all people, one to another.

(All): Abide in me as I abide in you.

For those who suffer from any illness or disease—of mind, body, or spirit. Restore these, and all those we carry in our hearts, to fullness of health—health as only you, O God, can bring. May your mercy shower each of us with healing mercy and love.

(All): Abide in me as I abide in you.

For those who are dying, and for those who have died. Send forth your comforting love. Give solace to those who mourn. Console those who grieve. May your grace surround us like a mantle upon our heads, a shawl upon our shoulders, a hand, to hold our hand.

(All): Abide in me as I abide in you.

Rev. Terri Pilarski, revgalblogpals.org

For all those who are moms, God moms, aunts, adopted moms, moms of the church, moms of the community, may they be blessed in thanksgiving for who they are to so many.

All: Abide in me as I abide in you.

For all those who are suffering due to the loss of a mom, the loss of being a mom, or perhaps have no idea what it was like to have a mom, or have negative memories of what mom means. May your comforting spirit wash over them Oh Lord and may abiding in you bring both a new joy, and a healed heart.

All: Abide in me as I abide in you. Amen.

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, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the Power and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Anthem: #497 Like A River Glorious

Reading 2: (Leader) Hebrews 12:5-6

Call of the children: Let the Children Come

Let the children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Let the children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. So spoke Jesus to his disciples. So speaks Jesus to us today; let the children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Kids Lesson: Pastor Julia

Sermon:(2 Part) Series on Being Rooted

Part 3:Pruning

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Tithes and Offerings

Charge & Blessing

God, help us to go forth into the world and be of good courage, rendering no one evil for evil. Strengthening the fainthearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all people, Help us to Love and serve you Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and may the blessing of the Almighty Creator, Redeemer and Holy Sustainer, be among us and remain with us always. Amen

Exiting Hymn: #584 God is at Work Within You

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Julia DiFiore, Pastor

Liturgist: Jenny Ice

Music Ministry: Brianna Crawford and the Bradford Woods Community Church Choir

Prayers for the Community:

- Continued Prayers for Rebekah in her studies.
- Pam's family in the passing of her father Johnnie
- The Sam family in the death of Alex
- For the BWCC leadership and community
- Missy Johns: Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Missy's friend Emily: recovering from chemo and surgery
- Sue's friend Carol Frazier: pain, severe balance issues and possibly facing another surgery
- Doug Atkinson: suffering with worsening Alzheimers
- Diana's brother-in-law Bill: dealing with ongoing health issues
- For Palestine, Israel and all war torn places
- For our community, state and the world
- For the poor and under-housed

If you are aware of any updates or new prayers needed to be added, please email the office at bradfordwoodscommunitychurch@gmail.com

A Morning Prayer for the week at home:

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.

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