

**Morning Message**      Wilderness Wanderings: Bitter Waters      *Pastor Steve*

**Musical Reflection**      *Deb Konupka*

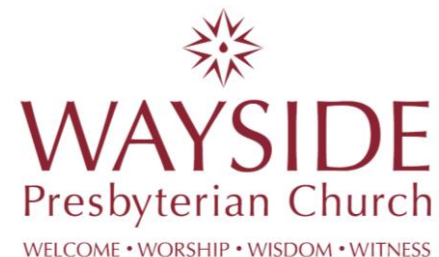
**Time of Prayer: Requests, Gratitudes, Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn 430**      Be Not Afraid

**\*Benediction**

**\*Parting Music**

**Next Week:** *Mother's Day with special gift. Bring Mom or your Mothering-One to Wayside.*



*Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Fritz, Pastor*

**Half Full or...?**



*The people grumbled against Moses, saying,  
"What are we to drink?" - Exodus 15:24*



**May 3, 2026  
9:00 am**

*Unstaffed Nursery for Parental use, Wheelchair, Hearing Assist System & Large Print Bibles available. See the A/V booth for assistance.*

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / Serving Columbia Dream Center Meal Tonight

*“Walking with Jesus, sharing Christ along the way”*

*Welcome to Wayside! We are blessed to have new friends with us as we worship God and let the Holy Spirit reset our minds and hearts to walk in the footsteps of Christ Jesus. If you are seeking a church home, we pray you are moved to settle among us. Want to know more about this ministry? Let us know of your interest and we'll arrange our next Seekers Class to invite you and others to an overview over lunch.*

*\*Please stand as able in body or spirit.*

**Greeting / Passing the Peace of Christ / Ways to Connect** *Pastor Steve*

**Prelude / Lighting Worship & Peace Candles** *Deb Konupka, Accompanist*

**Responsive Call to Worship** John 14:1-9a *Tom McMahan, Liturgist*

ONE: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going."

**ALL: <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"**

ONE: <sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

**ALL: <sup>8</sup>Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."**

ONE: <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.

**ALL: Let us worship the God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**\*Hymn 136 (vv. 1, 3 & 4)** Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

**Unison Prayer of Confession** *Liturgist*

**Forgive us, Lord, for the sins of our youth and of our older age. Forgive our disobedience, our grumbling, and our fear of the unknown. Help us to see even in times of want that we are blessed and have much to share with others. Grant us mercy. Direct our steps. Fill us with your Spirit. And help us to live into our destiny as your elect on a journey of life and faith. We pray in Jesus' name.**

*(continue in silent personal confession)*

## Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:2-10

*Liturgist*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup>now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone-- rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- <sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone, <sup>8</sup>and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message--which is also what they were destined for. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

ONE: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel.

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are, I am, forgiven.**

**\*Hymn 734**

Glory Be to the Father / *Gloria Patri*

**Prayer Table: Giving Pledges, Tithes & Offerings / Lighting Candles / Offertory**

*Digital gifts may be indicated by tapping the plate with a phone/hand.*

**\*Hymn 34** Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow / *Doxology*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**



**Scripture Reading**

Exodus 15:22-27

*Pastor Steve*

<sup>22</sup>Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. <sup>23</sup>When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) <sup>24</sup>So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?" <sup>25</sup>Then Moses cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the Lord made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them. <sup>26</sup>He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you." <sup>27</sup>Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

ONE: This is the Word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**