

Morning Prayer

May 2, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94>

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Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

The fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B

Prelude


Announcements

Opening Hymn

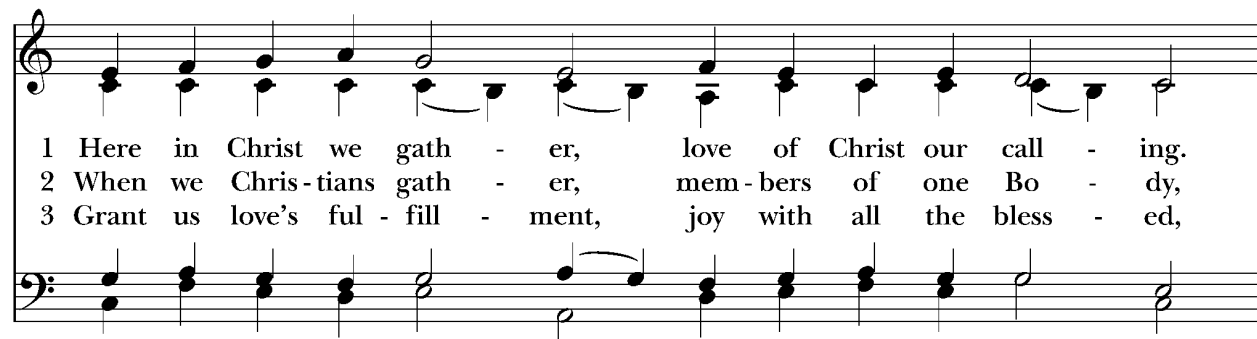
Hymnal 577

God is love

Refrain



God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,



Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.

Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
 in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done,
 and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
 For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

A Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, † forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise!

People **And your glory all the day long!**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

O come let us worship. Alleluia!

Invitatory: Venite

Come, let us sing to the Holy One; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout with psalms.**

For you, O God, are a great God; *

you are great above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

The sea is yours, for you made it, *

and your hands have molded the dry land

**Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before God, our Maker,**

For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand.

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

Psalm 22:24-30

²⁴My praise is of you, O God, in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship you.

²⁵ **The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek you shall praise you: “May your heart live for ever!”**

²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to you, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before you.

²⁷ **For yours is the royal power, O God; *
you rule over the nations.**

²⁸ To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before you.

²⁹ **My soul shall live for you; my descendants shall serve you; *
they shall be known as yours for ever.**

³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that you have done

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

O come let us worship. Alleluia!

The Lessons

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

²⁶An 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now 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.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 20: Glory to God

Gloria in excelsis

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly One,
almighty God,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,

**Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

A Reading from the First letter of John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

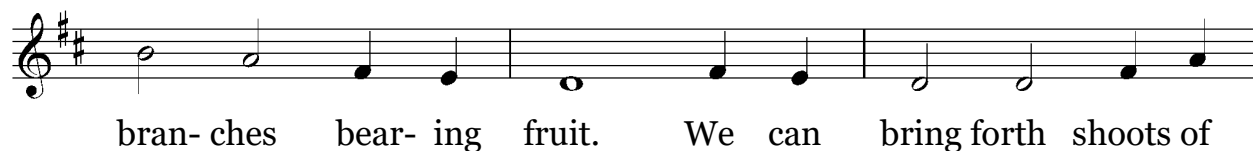
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

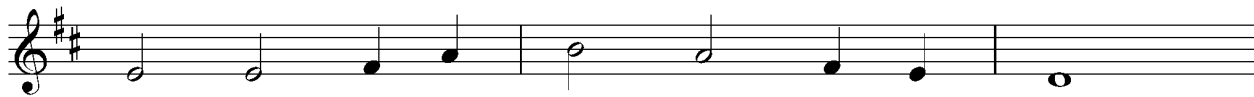
Hymn

Sing through twice

Tune: *Nettleton*

Christ the vine and God the gardener

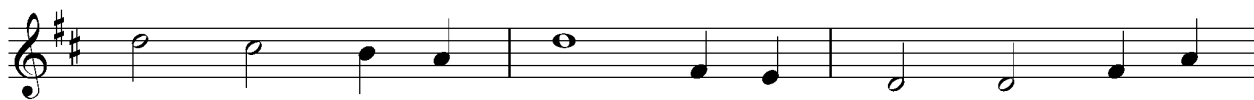




prom- ise when our lives in Christ take root.



Christ, the fruit from Jes- se spring- ing, you ful-



-filled the pro- phet's trust. And you pray that we, your



bod- y, will ful- fill your trust in us.

Third Reading

John 15:1-8

A Reading from John.

[Jesus said to his disciples,] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish,



and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The Presider begins

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Officiant As branches of Jesus, the living Vine, seeking to abide in the Spirit of love, we bring our prayers to God: Eternal Loving One, accept the wishes of our hearts as we pray faithfully, saying: For God is love; and perfect love casts out all fear.

Intercessor Gracious One, you have called us to abide in your life and to bear witness to Christ the lamb. We pray today for our bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig, all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our sisters and brothers worshipping at All Saints', East Lansing; and Holy Cross, Santa Fe, and St Barnabas, Pizarette, in the Dominican Republic. Grant that the Church may reveal your love through Jesus, that we might live in him and so bear much fruit. For God is love; **and perfect love casts out all fear.**

Silence is kept.

Light of the Word, dominion belongs to you, for you rule over the nations: Raise up bold witnesses like Philip, who will testify to the rich and powerful about God's good news, which is perfected in love, so that peace may abound in our time. For God is love; **and perfect love casts out all fear.**

Silence is kept.

Attentive Vinegrower, you tend the branches and fruit of your vine extending to the ends of the earth: let your loving attention reach out to all people who live in suffering and threatening conditions, that they may be restored to life and fruitfulness. For God is love; **and perfect love casts out all fear.**

Silence is kept.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God: Inspire all in our community to seek to expand the fruits of compassion and care so that the poor shall eat and be satisfied, and that all the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. For God is love; **and perfect love casts out all fear.**

Silence is kept.

You have first loved us and called us to love our neighbors as ourselves: Hear our prayers for all for whom we intercede [especially _____].

Accept our grateful thanks for your abundance in our lives [especially for _____].

Gather into your banquet all who have died [especially_____]; may their hearts live forever! For God is love; **and perfect love casts out all fear.**

Silence is kept.

Presider You have planted us in the nurturing ground of your steadfast love, O God, and grafted us into the life of your resurrected Son, Jesus our savior: Keep us evermore abiding within your Spirit of love, that we may bear the fruit of your reconciliation for all that is and is to come, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Prayers for those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries

In May, we celebrate the birthdays of Jerry, Nancy, and any others you wish to remember in prayer.

Prayer for a Birthday

BCP p.830

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, Jerry and Nancy, as they begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today we celebrate the anniversaries of those you wish to remember in prayer.

Prayer for an Anniversary

BCP p.429

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and especially upon *this/all* couple/s. Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may continue to grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. **Amen.**

The Presider then says

My sisters and brothers, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: we come to you with thanksgiving and praise. We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a gift from you. **Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,

**and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Make me a blessing

LEVAS 158

1. Out in the high - ways and by - ways of life,
 2. Tell the sweet sto - ry of Christ and His love,
 3. Give as 'twas giv - en to you in your need,

1. Man - y are wea - ry and sad;
 2. Tell of His power to for - give;
 3. Love as the Mas - ter loved you;

1. Car - ry the sun - shine where dark - ness is rife,
 2. Oth - ers will trust Him if on - ly you prove
 3. Be to the help - less a help - er in - deed,

1. Mak - ing the sor - row - ing glad.
 2. True, ev - ery mo - ment you live,
 3. Un - to your mis - sion be true.

Make me a bless - ing, Make me a bless - ing,

Out of my life _____ May Je - sus shine; _____

Make me a bless - ing, O Sav - ior, I pray, _____

Make me a bless - ing to some - one to - day. _____

Dismissal and Blessing

A Priest says

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

My sisters and my brothers, go now in peace, in the name of + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude



REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make an offering to St Barnabas, please mail your check to the church: 20500 W Old US-12, Chelsea MI 48118-1309. Mail is being collected daily.

CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS TO FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is continuing to provide leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They will be in need of our continuing help in the weeks of winter still to come.

Needed right now: *boxed/shelf-stable milk, cooking oil, salt/pepper, spices, coffee, tea bags, sugar, flour, canned tuna, crackers, cake mix, canned frosting, dish soap, women's hygiene products.* You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive at the church** will be **May 16**. The building will be open for you to leave your donations.

Financial donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by Facebook, or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action*, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118. **If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305**

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Upcoming Commemorations

- May 2 Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373
- 3 Elisabeth Cruciger; Poet and Hymnographer, 1535
- 4 Monnica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387
- 5 Martyrs of the Reformation Era, 1535-1679
- 7 Harriet Starr Cannon: Religious, 1896
- 8 Julian of Norwich, Mystic and Theologian, c.1417

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The Episcopal Church Racial Justice Audit

After two years and more than 1,300 surveys, the groundbreaking Racial Justice Audit of Episcopal Leadership (iam.ec/rja) is now available to the wider church and public. The audit identifies nine “patterns” of systemic racism – ranging from the historical context of church leadership to current power dynamics — that will also be highlighted in three public webinars in May and June.

Conducted by the Mission Institute in partnership with The Episcopal Church’s Racial Reconciliation and Justice Team, the audit focused on two key questions: who makes up the leadership of the church; and what are their experiences of race and racism in their leadership roles? The Mission Institute team mined the data for key insights about race and power and offered long-term recommendations.

“This racial justice audit, I think for the first time, has given us a real picture of the dynamics and the reality of structural and institutional racism among us,” Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said. “It has given us a baseline of where we are, to help us understand where we can, and must, by God’s grace, go.”

The survey was sent to nearly 3,000 clergy and lay leaders, with a response completion rate of 45 percent, or 1,326. Research focused on the church’s major leadership bodies: the House of Bishops, House of Deputies, Executive Council, Episcopal Church Center/churchwide staff; and a representative sample of diocesan leaders from 28 of the 109 dioceses of The Episcopal Church.

Survey respondents were invited to participate in more in-depth narrative interviews designed to surface personal stories and reflections on race and racism across the church. The Mission Institute team conducted approximately 65 interviews, in person and via Zoom after the onset of COVID-19.

The Rev. Gay Jennings said the audit has already been helpful to the House of Deputies, of which she is president. The House of Deputies comprises equal numbers of clergy and laypeople, all of whom are elected to the governing body. “This audit of church leadership, which represents the work of many people over several years, provides us with invaluable data that will help us draw closer to the Beloved Community that we long to be,” she said. “We are already taking action based on its findings, and we look forward to continuing this essential work.”

The audit rose in response to resolutions at The Episcopal Church’s 78th General Convention in 2015 and as part of the church’s long-term commitment to Becoming Beloved Community. The resolutions to *Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation* and to *Address Systemic Racial Injustice* formally acknowledged and repented of The Episcopal Church’s “historic and contemporary participation in this evil” and urged the Executive Council to conduct an internal audit to assess racial disparity and systemic injustices within the church.



Learn more about the webinars and audit and find supporting materials at the bilingual website: iam.ec/rja.

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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.

St Barnabas Episcopal Church
 20500 W Old US-12
 Chelsea MI 48118
stbarnabaschelsea.org

