



**May 17, 2026**  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

Sharing an experience of belonging, with God's music and the love  
and justice of Jesus at the heart of what we do.

**Welcome**

Rachel Robicheau

**Opening Music:** Come and Find the Quiet Center

**Guided Breath & Centering Moment**

**Opening Prayer**

Rev. Timothy Sylvia

**Entry Into Worship**

Cheryle Totten

One: We come as people who are tired of waiting...  
who have been holding their breath for longer than feels bearable.

**Many: And still we come. Because the waiting is not nothing.**

One: We come as people who have stared at the sky  
looking for answers that haven't arrived yet,  
who have asked when and how and what comes next  
and been met with silence.

**Many: And still we come. Because silence is not the same thing as absence.**

One: We come to a God who told the disciples to go back to Jerusalem,  
to stay together, to pray...  
not because nothing was happening,  
but because everything was about to.

**Many: We come trusting that something is about to happen here too.**

One: So let us worship in the waiting...  
not as people who have given up,  
not as people who have it figured out,

**Many: but as people who have learned that showing up together  
in the not-yet is itself an act of faith.**

**Scripture:** Acts 1: 6-14

Cheryle Totten

**Gospel:** John 17: 1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

**Music:** Stand In Your Love

**Sermon:** It Survived Because of Waiting

Rev. Timothy Sylvia

**Music:** We Will Feast In the House of Zion

**Affirmation (Unison)**

Rachel Robicheau

**We believe that waiting is not wasted time.  
We believe that the space between the promise  
and the fulfillment is not empty...  
that something is being formed in us there  
that could not be formed any other way.**

**We believe that the disciples in that upper room were not doing nothing.  
They were becoming the people who could receive what was coming.  
They were learning the shape of community  
that would hold them through everything that followed.**

**We believe that God is not behind on our timeline.  
We believe that urgency is not always faithfulness  
and that stillness is not always fear.**

**We believe that in the waiting...  
in the communal, prayerful, honest waiting...  
the church has been made and remade  
more times than it can count.**

**We are still being made.  
We are still in the waiting.  
And we believe that is exactly where we are supposed to be.**

**Offering Invitation**

Rachel Robicheau

**Pastoral Prayer (with 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Closing Music:** Come Down, O Love Divine

**Sending Forth**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**LITTLE WOMEN THE MUSICAL:** Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, Little Women follows the adventures of sisters, Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March. Jo is trying to sell her stories for publication, but the publishers are not interested – her friend, Professor Bhaer, tells her that she has to do better and write more from herself. Begrudgingly taking this advice, Jo weaves the story of herself and her sisters and their experience growing up in Civil War America. **Performances are May 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.** Get your tickets at [Bit.ly/2026LittleWomen](https://bit.ly/2026LittleWomen).

**WEEKLY ONLINE BIBLE STUDY, Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm EST – ONLINE ONLY:** Join us each Wednesday for a time of deep reflection, thoughtful conversation, and sacred curiosity as we open scripture together and explore what it means for our lives today.

Whether you've been reading the Bible for years or are just beginning to ask questions, there's space for you here. Bring your wonder. Bring your doubts. Bring your whole self. Come for the community. Stay for the transformation. Zoom link sent out weekly and available upon request.

**“RACE: THE POWER OF AN ILLUSION”, A 3-PART COMMUNITY VIDEO SERIES:** Join us for a thought-provoking series exploring race, identity and systemic inequality in the United States. The event schedule is as follows:

- June 5<sup>th</sup> – The Story We Tell
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – The House We Live In

Presented by the Racial Justice Team, each video will be shown from 7:00 – 8:00 pm, followed by a guided discussion. Movie snacks and beverages will be provided. Please meet in the Chapel. Free and open to the public!

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Staff Meeting	Monday, May 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am in the Chapel
Racial Justice	Monday May 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm in the Chapel

## SCAN OUR QR CODES:



Online Giving



Events Page of Our Website

Rev. Timothy Sylvania, Pastor  
Jeff Hobart, Director of Music Ministry

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[www.wearechanginglives.org](http://www.wearechanginglives.org)

781-963-6373  
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**Choir**  
Madison Christian, Angela Marseglia, Marjie DiSalvio, Joy Tardiff, Julia Pottey, Noah Hobart, Rachel Robicheau, Aaron Cohen, Laura Lee Coveney, Sam Hobart, Sue Goodale, Paul Meoni

**Band**  
Jeff Hobart – Piano, Rachel Robicheau – Song Leader, Angela Marseglia – Guitars, Sam Hobart – Guitars, Joy Tardiff – Bass, Noah Hobart - Drums

**Tech Team**  
Pat Dzierzak – Dramatic Sounds, John Silipigno, Adrian Sylvania, Caleb Tobin, Alex Goodrich, Ariana