

L: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; for time made precious by its passing;

P: Thank you, God.

L: We commend to your care, loving God, all the homes where your people live. Keep them, we pray, from bitterness, from disparaging remarks and attitudes and from pride in self.

P: Hear us, Lord of love. Fill us with such love and joy that we may build homes where no one is a stranger.

L: Knit together in enduring affection those who have become one in marriage.

P: Give them wisdom and devotion so that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy.

L: Let children and parents have full respect for each other. Do not let us become so preoccupied with our purposes that we fail to hear children or pay attention to their special vision of truth.

P: Give to parents calm strength and patient wisdom that they may teach children to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

L: Almighty God, grant that those who live alone may not be lonely but may be a part of a community of love and may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors.

P: We pray for those who have grown weak with age and who often live separated from loved ones. May they be confident of your love and strength.

L: Watch over families where, by death or separation, a parent is left alone with children.

P: Lift bitterness and the burden of lonely obligation. Show them that they live under your protection and love.

L: Strengthen those families where the relationships between husband and wife or parents and children are strained.

P: Melt hard hearts, free fixed minds, break the hold of stubborn pride. Grant to everyone the strength to understand each other and to forgive each other.

L: Help men and women whose marriages fail to know that you are faithful.

P: Restore confidence, bring understanding, and ease the hurt of separation. If they marry others, instruct them in better love, so that vows may be said with new resolve.

L: Remind us of the orphans of the world and all children who are abused or neglected.

P: Give them confidence in your parental guidance so that they may find a home in your family of faith and build wholesome, loving lives.

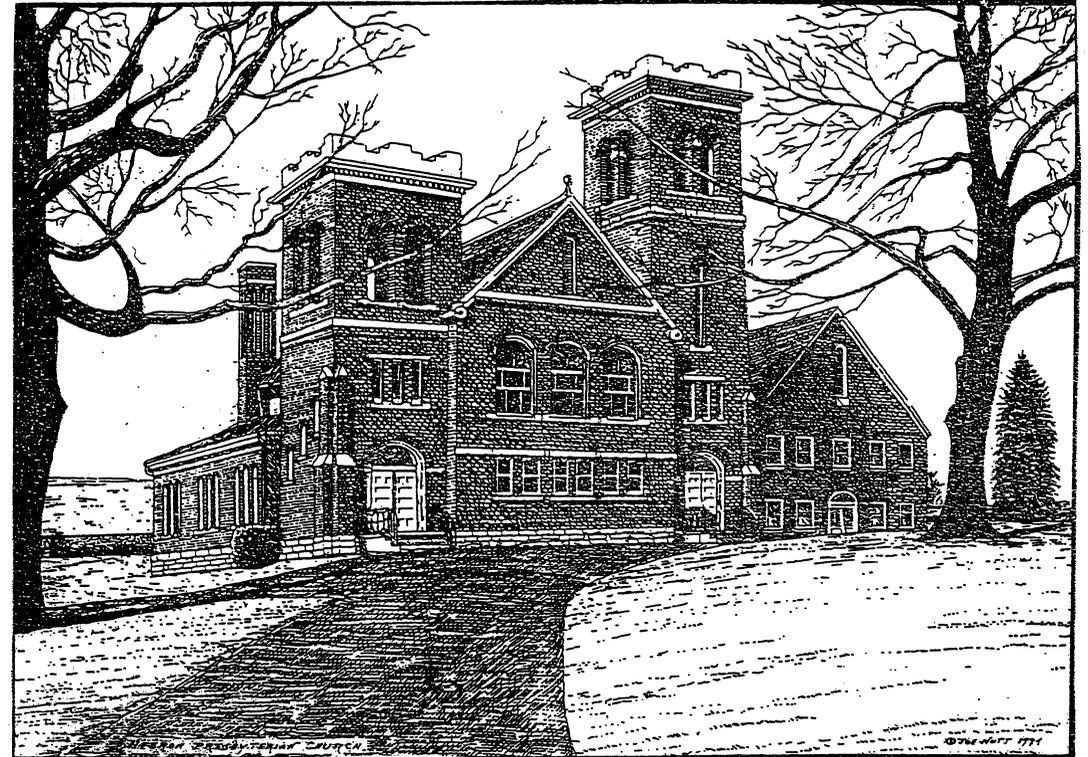
All: Help us, your church, to be family to each other, loving and supporting each other, questioning and forgiving each other and helping each other to grow in faith. Through the power of Jesus Christ. Amen

*HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #426

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL CLOSE *Lead Me, Lord* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Carolyn Wallace



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May 14, 2017 ~ 5th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 14, 2017

5th Sunday of Easter ~ Mother's Day

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Carolyn Wallace

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy Ground

Chancel Choir

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lord and Savior of families, we worship you.

P: Guardian of orphans, we rejoice in you.

L: God loves us like a father. God cares for us like a mother.

P: Liberator of captives, we rejoice in you.

L: Source of wind and rain, prosperity and judgment.

P: Protector of widows, we rejoice in you.

L: God delights in children and supports those who are growing old.

P: Strength of the weak, we rejoice in you.

***UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

Eternal God, our Creator, you set us to live in families. We commend to your care all the homes where your people live. Knit us together in love with others in our family, and help us to regard all your children as our sisters and brothers. Through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

***HYMN**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#793

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you love us, but we fail to love you as we should. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from our neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as we come to you we may repent, turn to you and receive your forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON ~ 1 Timothy 1:15a-b; 1 Peter 2:24

L: This is the good news: that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

P: As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#813

ANTHEM

Eden's Song

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S LESSON ~ *Children through 5th grade may go to Junior Church afterward*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSONS ~ Mark 3: 31-35; Mark 10: 23-31

SERMON

“Families and the Family of God”

Rev. Malcolm Brownlee

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed* Inside front cover of Hymnal

***HYMN** *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* #429

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** #815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

LITANY FOR FAMILY LIFE

L: O God of Abraham and Sarah and of Mary and Joseph, you have loved us and taught us to love one another. You have set us in a family and call us in our family life to show love and faithfulness.

P: We praise you, O God.

L: You are the perfect Father and the perfect Mother to us.

P: We praise you, O God.

L: You created us for life together, but we have not loved others as you love us.

P: Forgive us, merciful Lord.

L: We have broken promises that we made to you and to one another.

P: Forgive us, merciful Lord.

L: We have hurt those who love us most.

P: Forgive us, merciful Lord.

L: For all our failures as husbands or wives, as sisters or brothers, as parents and as children,

P: Forgive us, merciful Lord.

L: For all the joys of family life; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures,

P: Thank you, God.

L: For marriage: for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love,

P: Thank you, God.

L: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and their startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies; for the joy of nurturing them and loving them,

P: Thank you, God.

L: For the young; for their high hopes; for their irreverence toward worn-out values; their search for freedom and their solemn vows; for the joy of watching them grow in maturity and ability,

P: Thank you, God.