



**Centenary United Methodist Church  
2300 W. Friendly Ave.  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
May 14, 2023**

**Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor**

**Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director**

*Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.  
Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world.  
Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.*

Gathering Music                      *Frühlingsrauschen* ["Rustling of Spring"], Op. 32, No. 3,                      Christian Sinding

Announcements for Missions and Ministries

Choral Call to Worship                      We Are God's People                      Choir

### Call to Worship

One: Today we celebrate our mothers, grandmothers, aunties, and all the women who have loved us.

**Many: Thank you God for giving us mothers.**

One: We remember with deep gratitude all the ways they demonstrated their love for us.

**Many: Sometimes we did not understand them, but we know that God understood.**

One: We take time to remember our mothers because a mother's love is most like God's love.

**All: For their tears, for their hugs, for their wisdom, for their unfailing trust in our abilities, we give thanks today.**

Opening Prayer

**Loving God, we know your love because we have mothers.**

**We thank you for the mothers who carried us in their wombs, nourishing, protecting, and bringing us into the world.**

**We thank you for the mothers who did not give birth to us, yet loved us just the same.**

**With gratitude we remember their words of encouragement when we have felt unsure or afraid; we thank you for their kindness when the world has treated us unkindly;**

**we thank you for their soft, comforting arms and the gentle way they kissed away our tears;**

**we thank you that they protected us with the fierceness of a lioness protecting her cubs;**

**we thank you for the times when they corrected us rather than letting us continue down wrong paths.**

**Help us to live so that their investment in us might not be in vain.**

**We honor our mothers with lives of service to you in the name of the Risen Christ, for it is in his Name we pray. Amen.**

*(The Rev. Dr. LaGretta Bjorn is the pastor of the United Methodist Church of Spring Valley in Spring Valley, New York and is a clergy member of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.)*

†Hymn                      Morning Has Broken                      UMH 145

Joys and Concerns of Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and 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. And 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                      Be Still, My Soul                      Penny Rodriguez                      Choir

Scripture:                      1 Peter 2: 1-12

Special Music                      Ballade No. 2 in E Major from *Ossian*, Op. 4                      by Louis Moreau Gottschalk

Sermon:                      "Your Coronation as Prince or Princess"                      Rev. Kelley Groce

## †Mothers' Day Litany

One: All who gather here are sons or daughters.

**All: We praise God for the women who gave us life.**

One: For mothers brave, strong, compassionate, full of wisdom and grace,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

One: For mothers vulnerable, worried, frustrated, and hurried,

**All: We pray for peace.**

One: For relationships that are strained and no longer a source of joy,

**All: We pray for healing.**

One: For mothers who have died, that live no longer with us, but whose light shines on in our hearts and memories,

**All: We pray for those that mourn and give God thanks for life eternal.**

One: For mothers who grieve, who have lost children born or unborn,

**All: We weep with those with broken hearts.**

One: For those who are struggling to raise children, who are tired and weary,

**All: We pray that we may be their village, offering real help in hard times.**

One: For those who are preparing emptier nests,

**All: We both celebrate and mourn with you, and hope their wings are as strong as their roots are deep.**

One: For stepmothers, navigating the pitfalls and joys of creating a new family,

**All: We pray for wisdom and patience.**

One: For Grandmothers who are doing the hard work of raising children again,

**All: We pray the caregivers have those who care for them.**

One: For those who are waiting and sometimes struggling with the biological process to bring new life, and for those who are waiting for adoptive process to be fulfilled.

**All: We wait eagerly with you, and offer you our hand to hold in the trial.**

One: For women who do not have children, but instead teach, lead, care for, and guide the children of others,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

One: For the mothers, sisters, daughters in our midst and around the world. For the women who, created in the image of God, give not just life, but abundant life. For women fighting, struggling, and sweating for the sake of others. For women caring, compassionate, and crying with the heart of Christ. For the caregivers, prophets, preachers, teachers, leaders, shepherds, healers. For Moms, in their wide variety and many forms,

**All: We give God thanks and praise.**

Permission to use this litany for public worship is granted. If it will be reprinted in worship bulletin, please attribute with link to <http://fatpastor.me>.

†Gloria Patri

†Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father

UMH 141

We Worship with God's Tithes and our Offerings.

Offertory

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Choir

†Doxology

†Hymn

The Gift of Love

UMH 408

†Blessing and Benediction

†Postlude No. 1 of *Dubnová preludia* ["April Preludes"], Op. 13, Vítězslava Kaprálová

“Many thanks to James Esterline for providing our service music in this morning’s worship.”

†Please stand as you are able and silence your cell phones.

The altar flowers are given on the Mother’s Day to the Glory of God in memory of Jean Farabee by her family.

The roses are given today to the Glory of God in honor of all women who inspire us.



**As you engage your ‘Prayer Life’ this week, please remember these prayer concerns: If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-5081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.**

**Prayer Concerns:**

Lori Johnson. Gretchen Crabtree. Betty Pleasants. Dave Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Scott Stanley. Al & Lori Eaton. Peggy Harris. Diane & Jim Stanley. Trudy Sillmon. Don & Clara Ellis. Aly Saunders. Till West (David Groce’s aunt). Bruce Gillespie (Debbie Robinson’s friend). June Robb (Mary von Glahn’s sister). Annie Oakley (Margaret Turnage’s friend). Rowan James (daughter of David Groce’s co-worker).



## Announcements and Calendar of events

**May Birthdays** – Jameson Stout (3). Coak May (5). Robb Stowe (8). Betty Chambers (10). Fred Wampler (12). Jeane Battten (22). Bianca York (24). Dylan Sillmon (25). Spencer Deuterman, Kathy Swing (27). Susan Roach (30)

**Sunday School at 9:45am** – in the Fellowship Hall. With a 12-week study on the Disciples of Jesus.

**May 17<sup>th</sup> – 3:00pm** – Rev. Kelley will be at Friends Home, Guilford to share a devotion and Holy Communion.

**May 18<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm - The Centenary Starlight Book Club-** The book is Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel by Bonnie Garmus. Will meet at Lucky 32.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> – 8am to 10am – Community Breakfast and Clothes Closet.** Please come out and support this all-important mission as we feed the hungry bodies and souls.

**May 21<sup>st</sup> – 12:30pm- Ad Council and Called Church Charge Conference – for the purpose of approving clergy compensation for Rev. Kelley Groce effective July 1, 2023.**

**May 24<sup>th</sup> – 2pm to 6:30pm - Mark your calendars- Red Cross Blood drive.** Please spread the word to your family and friends. The Red Cross has contacted us to say there is a great need currently! What better gift to give than the gift of Life!

Attendance – May 7, 2023

Sunday School	15
Worship in-person	33
Worship - FaceBook Live	63