



**Plainfield Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

Plainfield, Illinois

***Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 9, 2021  
"Chosen to Love"***



**Welcome and Announcements**

**Centering & Song**

Our lives are in you, Lord; our strength and our hope is in You, Lord, in you, it's in you. We will praise You with all of our lives and with all of our strength. All of our hope is in You.

**Invitation to Worship**

One: Let the whole earth praise the Lord! Let the mountains and hills proclaim God's handiwork! Let the seas roar and the waves crash in symphonies of praise! Let all creation sing God's new song of love!

***All: Praise be to God who has created and is creating anew! Praise be to God who re-creates God's love in us each day!***

**Prayer**

One: God of songs and marvels, old and new, your powerful love for this world continues to astound us.

***All: We gather from all reaches of life to recall the love that brought Jesus into this world and into our lives: as savior, friend, and brother. We thank you for welcoming us into your presence and for trusting us with Your marvelous work to draw all people into the spacious home of Your love. Amen.***

**Invitation to Generous Gifts**

**Reminder of Generous Giving Opportunities**

**Doxology**

**Prayer Dedication**

One: God of unimaginable love, we have been told the stories of your love, and we have sung songs about your love. These things bring us comfort.

***All: We hear the challenge of Jesus: “As I have loved you, so you should love one another” – not just those who think as we do, pray as we do, and look the way that we do. Help us, through our giving, our living and our loving, to live up to the challenge of loving as you would have us love. Amen***

**Joys and Concerns: Prayers of the People: Lord’s Prayer**

**Song**

**Prayer for Scripture**

One: Almighty God, You love us, but we have not loved You; You call, but we have not listened.

***All: We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness. Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as You move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to You, and receive mercy; Amen***

**John 15:9-17**

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

<b>Reading</b>	<b><i>How We Love</i></b>	Mother Teresa
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**Meditation**

<b>Reading</b>	<b><i>Love’s Affect</i></b>	Bob Marley
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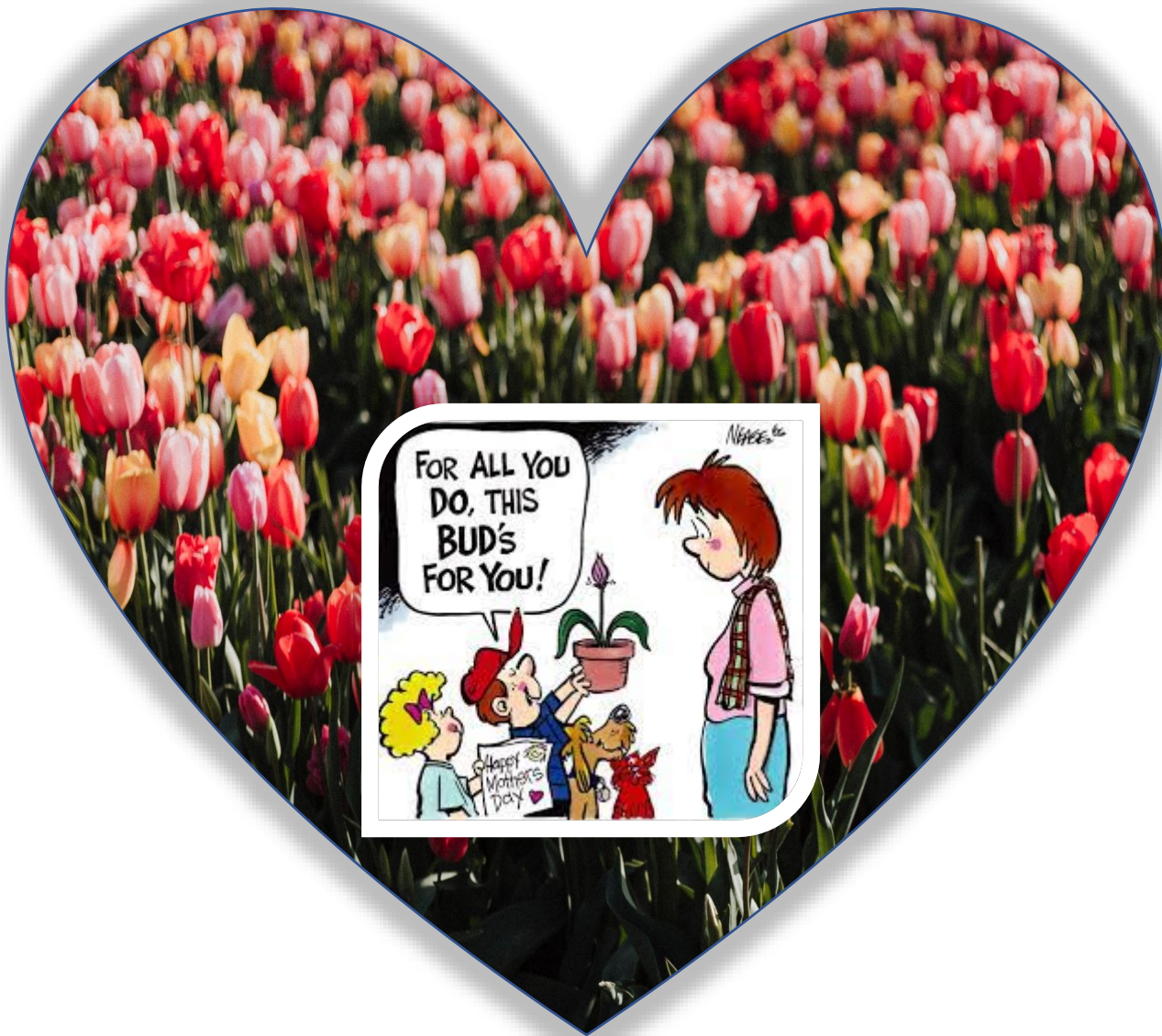
**Affirming Our Mission**

***We the members and friends of Plainfield Congregational Church United Church of Christ seek to embody and celebrate God’s love by being a community that lives Christ’s compassion and promotes justice, healing and wholeness of life; a joyous family where all are welcome to join together to grow in faith and love.***

Blessing

Gord

Chimes



*Happy Mother's Day Moms!*