

may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Sermon "The Way, The Truth, The Life: The Trinity Path"
Rev. Nici Masters

Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" v 1,3,4 UMH 504

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Service of Word and Table UMH 13

Offering "Eagles Wings Medley"
arr. Wilson Resounding Joy

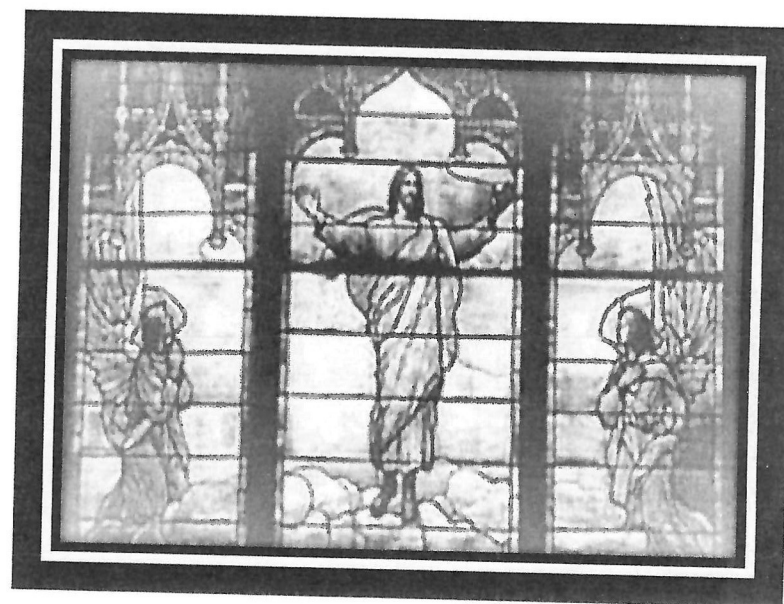
Doxology UMH 94

Offertory Prayer

Passing the Peace

Hymn "When We All Get to Heaven" v 1,2,4 UMH 701

Benediction



GATEWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 3, 2026

301 Diamond Street, Fairmont WV 26554

Rev. Nici Masters, Pastor
Music Coordinator – Bev Slagle
Bell Choir Director – Val Huffman
May Head Usher – David Nuzum

Acolytes
Esme and Ollie Allen
Haeden and Kenslie Futton
Nora Rae Huffman

The Celebration of Worship

Order of Worship

Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

L: In you, Lord, I have taken refuge.

All: Let me never be put to shame. Deliver me in your righteousness.

L: Turn your ear to me. Come quickly to my rescue.

All: Be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.

L: Since you are my rock and my fortress,

All: lead me and guide me for the sake of your name.

L: Let your face shine upon your servant.

All: Save me in your unfailing love!

Opening Prayer

O God of all creation become for us once again the solid foundation upon which we build our daily lives. We gather before you, this first day of the week, to align our lives to the strong teaching and life of Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone. Receive our praise and thanksgiving as expressions of faith and love. We come to you, O Lord, as people who desire to learn and serve like Christ. We are ready to receive your blessing and direction today. Amen.

Children's Chat

Val Huffman

Hymn

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH 526

Scripture Reading

Psalms 31: 1-5

1 In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. 2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. 3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. 4 Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge. 5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

Sermon Scripture

John 14: 1-14

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." 8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." 9 Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. 12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father

PRAYER REQUESTS

Faye Dodd, Rusty Freeland, Mary Beth Furbee, Carol Hall, Ezra Hall, Lisa Kerns, Jeff Kerns
Linda Lomicka, Charlotte Merriman, Sally Morrison, Dan Ross, Madalee Wilson

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4 – Mary Priscilla Meeting – 4pm
May 9 – Car Show
May 10 – Mother's Day
May 16 – Garden Party
May 23 – GUMM
May 24 – Prayer Team Meeting
May 25 – Memorial Day – Office Closed

APRIL ATTENDANCE

April 5 – 104
April 12 – 71
April 19 – 85
April 26 – 65

Mary Priscilla Women Say Thank You!!

Thank you to each one who signed up for cake donations. You will be contacted prior to the day a cake is needed. We appreciate your time and donation.

Maaureen Ward, Chairperson

Gateway Contact Information

Church Office Phone – 304-363-7847
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Pastor's email – nicimasters@yahoo.com
Church E-mail – gatewayumc@gmail.com
Website – gatewayumc-wv.org
YouTube Link – <https://youtube.com@gatewayumc.wv>

Loose Change/Food Pantry Collection

Loose change (coins only) – Honey Bag
Items for April – pancake mix/syrup
Items for May – peanut butter/jelly

The Way, The Truth, The Life: The Trinity Path

John 14:1-14

Psalms 31:1-5

Both of these passages encourage looking past temporary, earthly distress to find peace in divine presence and care. While Psalm 31 finds safety in God during crisis, John 14 promises that Jesus is the ultimate source of that safety and the mediator who brings believers into the Father's home.

Key Elements

**** A Command to Trust***

Jesus tells his disciples to stop being troubled, urging them to trust in him just as they trust in God.

**** The Father's House***

The "dwelling places" promise that Jesus is preparing a place within God's family for believers. It emphasizes union with him rather than just a physical location.

**** The Way, The Truth, The Life***

Jesus asserts he is the only way to the Father, identifying himself as God.

**** The Philip Request***

When Philip asks to see the Father, Jesus responds that to have seen him is to have seen the Father, affirming his unity with God.

**** Greater Works***

Jesus promises that believers will do "greater works" through the power of the Holy Spirit, which is a promise of empowerment and continued mission.

**** Refuge & Rock***

David appeals to God for protection, calling him a "rock of refuge" and a "strong fortress." This parallels Jesus' invitation to find security in Him.

**** Deliverance***

The Psalm is a plea for emotional and physical rescue from distress, focusing on God as a faithful deliverer.

**** Trust in God's Hands***

"Into your hand I commit my spirit," is a direct entrustment of life to God, a verse quoted by Jesus on the cross, emphasizing complete surrender and trust in God's safe keeping.

The Way

The only way; path or route

The disciples expressed confusion about where He was going & how they could follow. There is no other path to heaven, to the Father.

Acts 4:12

The Truth

Psalm 119:142

Equating himself with the law of God as the authoritative standard of righteousness, He came to fulfill the Law & the Prophets. Jesus, as the Incarnate Word of God is the source of all truth.

Matthew 5:17

John 1:1

The Life

He claimed to be the source of all life.

John 10:17-18

Authority over life & death.

John 14:19

Because I live, you also will live.

True deliverance from a life of bondage to sin & death to life of freedom in eternity.

Jesus was declaring Himself the great "I Am," the only path to heaven, the only true measure of righteousness, the source of both physical & spiritual life.

Context

In the chapters leading up to this, Jesus has entered Jerusalem. He has given his farewell address at the Last Supper. He has washed the disciples' feet explaining what it all means. Jesus has foretold the betrayal by Judas and he's shared that he will be with them for only a short time longer. Jesus also tells Peter that he will deny him.

Verse 1

Jesus had just told them that 1 of them was a traitor & he would leave them that night. This of course would trouble the disciples, yet Jesus told them not to worry.

Jesus promised we could have an untroubled heart even when life troubled us. Instead of giving in to a troubled heart, Jesus told them to firmly put their trust in God/ Jesus, himself.

Jesus calls them back to a fundamental relationship of trust & assures them He's not abandoning them. He's returning to His Father. Jesus assures them that this is also their destination.

Verse 2-4

Jesus spoke with complete confidence about heaven. He told His disciples that there was room for all in heaven.

Many Mansions: Dwelling places = a place to stay

In light of God's nature, it's better to translate it as mansions. Whatever dwelling place God has for us in heaven, it will be as glorious as a mansion. There will be many such dwelling places. Jesus could see what the disciples never could.

Jesus prepares a place for his people & is confident upon their arrival. His love prepares a warm & welcoming place for all of us who believe.

Jesus promised to come again for the disciple. This was not only his resurrection or in the coming Holy Spirit. Jesus also had in mind the great gathering together of His people at the end of the age.

** 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17*

The entire focus of heaven is being united with Jesus.

Verses 5-6

Jesus' way would be the cross. Since he took that way, Jesus is the Way to God; Because He didn't contest the lies we can believe He is the Truth. Because He was willing to die He became the channel of the resurrection - The Life to us.

Exodus 20:2-3

Isaiah 41:21-29

1 Kings 18:19-40

Jesus offers comfort to His people. He is all they need; if they know Him then they know the Father.

Verses 7-8

To Know Jesus is to know God

Jesus understood that since the disciples had not yet seen the full revelation of God's love at the cross & His power at the resurrection, there was a sense in which they would only now know & see God.

Philip had seen & experienced much in following Jesus, but had not yet seen God the Father with his physical eye. Perhaps he thought such an experience would bring life-changing assurance & courage,

Verses 9-11

Jesus said that to know Him was to know God the Father. To see the love of Jesus was to see the love of God the Father; Seeing Jesus in action was seeing the Father in action.

Jesus presented 2 solid foundations for our trust in Him. We can believe in Jesus simply because of His person & words or we can also believe Him for the sake of the works that He miraculously did.

Verses 12-14

Jesus began the 1st of 3 assurances give to His disciples on the night of His departure. The 1st assurance answered their fear. Jesus just encouraged the disciples to trust in Him, cling to Him in faith because of who He is. Jesus expected those who believe in Him to carry on His work in the world. Jesus would explain that when He ascended to heaven, He would send the Holy Spirit to His people, enabling them to do great things. These great works will bring glory to the Father & the Son.



**BECAUSE SHE IS SUCH A BLESSING TO US
LET'S CELEBRATE**

Pastor Nici's

BIRTHDAY

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

DIRECTLY AFTER WORSHIP

WELCOME ROOM AND CHAPEL AREA

If you would like to contribute to our church family's gift to Pastor Nici, please give your donation to Marj by Sunday, May 10.