

## Sunday, 10 May 2026 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Today is the sixth Sunday of the season of Easter. The season of Easter lasts seven weeks from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday on May 24.

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/theology-worship/worship/christian-year/season-easter>

### Prelude

Distinguished American composer Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024) graduated from the Yale and Eastman Schools of Music. Upon retirement she was named professor emeritus of the University of California, Santa Barbara. *I Love to Tell the Story* is #462 in *Glory to God* and *O Waly Waly* is found three times at #202, 302, and 847.

### Processional Hymn

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* was published in 1887 with music by Anthony J. Showalter (1858-1924) and lyrics by Showalter and Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929). Born in Cherry Grove, West Virginia, Showalter formed the Showalter Music Company in 1884 in Dalton, Georgia, where he was also elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Dalton. Hoffman was a composer of over 2,000 hymns and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1873 after attending Union Seminary in New Berlin, Pennsylvania.

### Special Music

*What a Wonderful World* was first recorded by Louis Armstrong on August 16, 1967 and topped the pop charts in the United Kingdom in 1968. It did not perform as well in the United States because the president of ABC records did not like the song! The song did eventually gain recognition in this country and, after it was featured in the film *Good Morning, Vietnam* in 1988, it reached number 32 on the *Billboard Hot 100* chart. In 2021, it was ranked at number 171 on Rolling Stone's *Top 500 Best Songs of All Time*.

### Offertory Anthem

The text of *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth* is based on the writings of Julian of Norwich (c. 1342 – c. 1413). Her book of devotions, *Revelations of Divine Love*, was published in 1395 and is the first published book in the English language to be written by a woman.

Tom Trenney (b. 1977) has served as Minister of Music to First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, since 2009.

### Recessional Hymn

Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949) adapted the tune MCKEE in 1940 for use with the text *In Christ There Is No East or West*. He named it for Rev. Elmer McKee, rector of St. George's Church in New York City, where Burleigh was baritone soloist for 52 years.

### Postlude

Dr. Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954) is Organist/Choirmaster of Seventh Street Christian Church in Richmond, Virginia and a member of the music faculty at the University of Richmond. She is the composer of *Carol Fantasia*, which was commissioned for *Christmas in East Liberty* and has been featured on that concert several times. A new duet for organ and piano by Dr. Bennett will be premiered next Sunday, May 17, at 3 PM by The Arsenal Duo (Dr. Ed Moore and Dr. Nathan Careterette) here in the ELPC sanctuary.