



Confirmation & Youth Sunday

*Celebrating the Lifelong
Journey of Faith*

Glenview Community Church
May 4, 2025



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Thank you for joining us for worship and fellowship today. We are blessed to have you with us and look forward to greeting you after worship.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

May 4 Is Confirmation Sunday and May 11 is the Second Sunday format which will include a Puppet Presentation. These services are directed toward families and children so there will not be regular Godly Play church school these two weeks. Childcare for babies and toddlers will be available, but preschool through 6th grade children should plan to remain in church with their families. Godly Play will meet on May 18 and 25 and then Summer Church School will begin on June 1. Hope to see you there!

INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

Glenview Community Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ, accepting all who believe in God without regard to race, color, age, marital status, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical ability. It is also a W.I.S.E. church of the United Church of Christ – welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and engaged with respect to persons facing mental health challenges, their families, and their caregivers.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

There are large print bulletins available. If you need one, ask an usher.

HEARING DEVICES

Hearing devices are available for your use. They are located in the Narthex. If you need assistance in locating them, please see an usher who will be able to assist you.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Ministers	Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Rev. Abigail Lutz
Organist	Gary Wendt
Chancel Choir	Guillermo Muñoz Küster
Lector	Payne Wood
Youth Participants	Stella Hoffer, Logan Porte
Ambassadors	Holly Little, Cathy Shapiro
Head Usher	Laura O'Mera
Ushers	Debbie Berg, Doug Berg, Ginny Hotaling, George Silca, Diane Silca, Dave Tosh
Technical Engineer	Barry Nelson
Offering Steward	Lindsey Holton

MODERATOR

Susan Johns

moderator@gccucc.org

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
CONFIRMATION & YOUTH SUNDAY**

May 4, 2025

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

GATHER

PRELUDE *Adagio and Menuetto*

Mozart

***HYMN #402** *How Lovely, Lord*

MERLE'S TUNE

*WORDS OF WELCOME

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
All: **You are welcome here.**

OPENING PRAYER *“For Youth and Those Who Are Growing”*
(Adapted from a prayer by Howard Thurman)

BIBLE PRESENTATIONS

Catherine Hayes, Brandon Shook

All: Thank you, God for the Holy Bible and for the students receiving them this morning. May we be a community that nourishes their learning about the Bible and about their faith. May their journey of reading and wondering about Scripture lead them each closer to you. Amen.

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

ANTHEM *The Gift of Love*

Hal Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed.
By this we worship and are freed. Amen.

**The asterisk indicates when to stand if able.*

HOMILY *A Lifelong Journey*

Rev. Abigail Lutz

HYMN #543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

RESPOND

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & RITE OF CONFIRMATION

INVITATION

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Do you believe in God?

All: I believe in God.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

BAPTISM

Makinley Petrusha, Xander Song

One: And to the congregation gathered here today, do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to the one(s) about to be baptized as they live and grow in Christ? If so, please respond, “we promise our love, support, and care.”

All: We promise our love, support, and care.

PRAYER FOR BAPTIZED

All: Give to the newly baptized strength for life’s journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMANDS

All: Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

Vivian Call, Lucy Clark, Elizabeth Bailey Herakovich, Enzo Kieun Lee, Lauren Rose McClung, Makinley Petrusha, Hunter Stephen Shook, Xander Song, Shea Colleen Thompson, Samantha Grace Wetterman

One: O God in the grace of Jesus Christ you have accepted this your servant,
_____ through the water of baptism. Nourish in her/him the
power of your Holy Spirit that she/he may serve you in the world.

All: Amen.

**All: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the
hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit
may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be
witnesses of our risen Savior.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Written by GCC Youth Group*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Thy Perfect Love*

John Rutter

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest,
Thy perfect love close in my breast,
That I thee love and never rest,
And make me love thee of all things best,
And wound my heart in thy love free,
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All who love our Savior Jesus Christ are welcome to receive Communion regardless of church
membership. Please come forward to receive the bread and cup by intinction (dipping the bread into
the cup) while standing. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward
and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing from the minister.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**All: God, We thank you for nourishing our faith throughout our whole lives.
Thank you for welcoming us as we are with our questions and doubts. Thank
you God, for the open invitation to your table, where we can come time and time
again to find you and to connect with each other. Would this Communion feast
sustain us until we come to The Table again. Amen.**

BLESSING OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS & BENEDICTION

Jack Ehlinger, Chance Huebner, Anna Gartner, Allie Holton, John Hoexter

**All: May you go forward with courage, knowing you are never alone.
May you trust that the God who called you here is already ahead of you,
preparing the way.
May you carry the love you have received in this place into every place you go.
May your faith continue to grow, deepen, and expand — wherever life leads.
And may we, your church family, always be a home you can return to.**

POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God*

J.S. Bach/V. Fox



We would like to say a special “Thank You” to Jane Marmet for making the stoles for each confirmand to wear during this morning’s service. Jane has generously made these stoles, which feature a flame as a symbol of the Holy Spirit, as gifts for the confirmands to remember this milestone in their faith journey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 5

“How to Best Communicate with Loved Ones Showing Signs of Dementia”: Join Rev. Dr. Janet Aldrich for practical tips on communicating with friends and family experiencing early signs of dementia. All are welcome at 7 p.m. in the Commons.

Wednesday, May 7

Final Amos Speakers Forum of the season! Join us on Wednesday, May 7 at 7 p.m. in The Commons for a riveting and inspirational presentation, "For the Sake of the Children: Battling Abuse and Restoring Lives," featuring Char Rivette, CEO of the internationally renown **Chicago Children's Advocacy Center**.

Sunday, May 11

“Faith” – Second Sunday & Mother’s Day

Join us for a special worship service featuring the GCC Puppeteers.

Hour of Prayer

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary (May 15– June 5)

Join Rev. Abigail for a designated hour of prayer. Bring your joys and concerns as we gather to share prayer requests and pray together. All are welcome. This will be a casual and welcoming time of community prayer.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

In May of 2022 Glenview Community Church voted to become a W.I.S.E Congregation.

“W.I.S.E” stands for “Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged” for all with mental health challenges and their loved ones. Part of living out this commitment is talking openly about Mental Health to help reduce stigma.

Did you know?

- 1 in 5 U.S. adults experiences mental illness each year.
- 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6–17 experiences a mental health disorder each year.
- Mental health affects how we think, feel, and act, and influences how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.
- Most mental health conditions are treatable, and recovery is possible with the right support and care.

To learn more about mental health, specific mental illness, resources– visit nami.org (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Electronic Giving

Didn’t bring your cash? No more checks? No problem! Scan the QR code to be directed to the GCC giving web page where you can make a donation directly from your phone. Thank you to everyone for their continued support!



GLENVIEW FIND YOUR COMMUNITY **CHURCH**

1000 Elm Street
Glenview, IL 60025
Phone: (847) 724-2210
website: www.gccucc.org

MINISTERS

Rev. Dr. James M. Matarazzo, Jr., Senior Minister
Rev. Abigail Lutz, Pastoral Resident

PROGRAM STAFF

Gary Wendt, Music
Guillermo Muñoz Küster, Adult Choirs
Katelyn Ornduff, Children's Choir
Chris Calandra, Children's Ministry
Meredith Estes, Youth Ministry
Laura Dillon, GCC Nursery School
Karen Ornduff, New To You

OFFICE STAFF

Dave Aki, Director of Operations
Riley Smith, Church Administrator
Julie Evans, Business Manager
Javier Avila, Custodian

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

Glenview Community Church is a Christian community of acceptance and welcome for all God's people. We strive to make our buildings and grounds a place of sanctuary and safety for each person who comes here. Our church community is:

Inspired by Christ,
Enriched by Faith,
Committed to Inclusivity.

We serve God as advocates for Justice, Compassion, and Peace.