

PRELUDE

Pastor:

Jonathan Lamb

*Fifth Sunday of
Easter*

April 28th, 2024

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WELCOME,
ANNOUNCEMENTS,
and
CELEBRATIONS



Give Thanks

Let us quiet our minds, hearts, and spirits as we begin to focus on the presence of God as we bring the *Light of Christ* into our midst.



Bringing In The Light of Christ

“Gather Us In”

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God;

People: **Everyone who loves is born of
God and knows God.**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

People: **God's love was revealed among us in this way:**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

People: **In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us**

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: And sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

People: **Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.**

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

To God be the glory great things He has done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life gate that all may go in

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the earth hear His voice

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the people rejoice

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He has
done

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

O perfect redemption the purchase of blood
To every believer the promise of God
The vilest offender who truly believes
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the earth hear His voice

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the people rejoice

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He has
done

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Great things He has taught us
Great things He has done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see

“To God Be The Glory” UMH 98

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; Music: William H. Doane, 1875

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the earth hear His voice

Praise the Lord praise the Lord

Let the people rejoice

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He has

done

OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty God, whom truly
to know is everlasting life:**

Grant

**us so perfectly to know
your Son Jesus Christ to
be the way,
the truth, and the life,
that we may steadfastly
follow his
steps in the way that
leads to eternal life;**



OPENING PRAYER

**through Jesus Christ
your Son our Lord, who
lives and reigns with
you, in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.**





Young Disciples'
Message
"The True Vine"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God, as we turn
to your Word for us, may
the Spirit of God rest upon
us. Help us to be
steadfast in our hearing,
in our speaking, in our
believing, and in our
living. Amen.**



Acts 8:26-40



26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."

27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian^[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians").

This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

31 “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

32 The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture :

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

33 In his humiliation he was deprived of
justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.”

34 The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please,
who is the prophet talking about, himself or
someone else?”

35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?”

38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot.
Then both Philip and the eunuch went down
into the water and Philip baptized him.

39 When they came up out of the water, the
Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip
away, and the eunuch did not see him again,
but went on his way rejoicing.

40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

UMH 757



PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10 UMH 757

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

People: O my God, in you I trust,
Let me not be put to shame;
Let not my enemies exult over me.

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Let none that wait for you be put to shame;

People: Let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Make me to know your ways,
O Lord;

People: **Teach me your paths.**

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Lead me in your truth, and
teach me,

People: For you are the God of my
salvation; for you I wait
all the day long.

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord,
and of your steadfast love,
For they have been from of old.

People: Remember not the sins of my
youth, or my transgressions; for the sake
of your goodness, O Lord.

PSALM READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore the Lord instructs sinners in the way, and leads the humble in what is right, and teaches them their way.

People: All the path of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep the Lord's covenant and testimonies.



John 15: 1-8

Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my
Father is the gardener.

² He cuts off every branch in me that bears
no fruit, while every branch that does bear
fruit he prunes so that it will be even more
fruitful.

³ You are already clean because of the
word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in me and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Glory Be to the Father

70

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

TODAY'S MESSAGE

“Philip and the Ethiopian”



“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

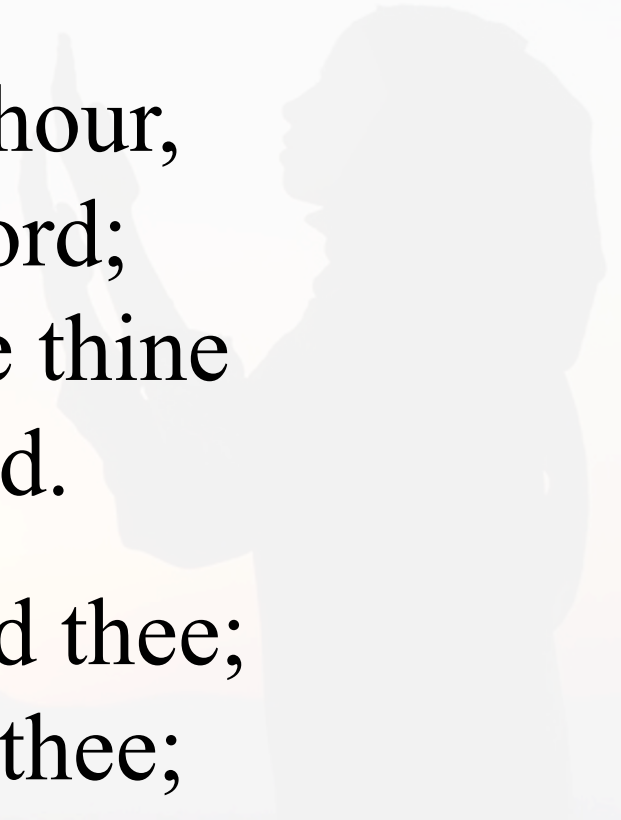
WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I need thee every hour,
most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine
can peace afford.

I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now my Savior,
I come to thee.



“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I need thee every hour,
stay thou nearby;
temptations lose their power
when thou art nigh.

I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now my Savior,
I come to thee.

“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

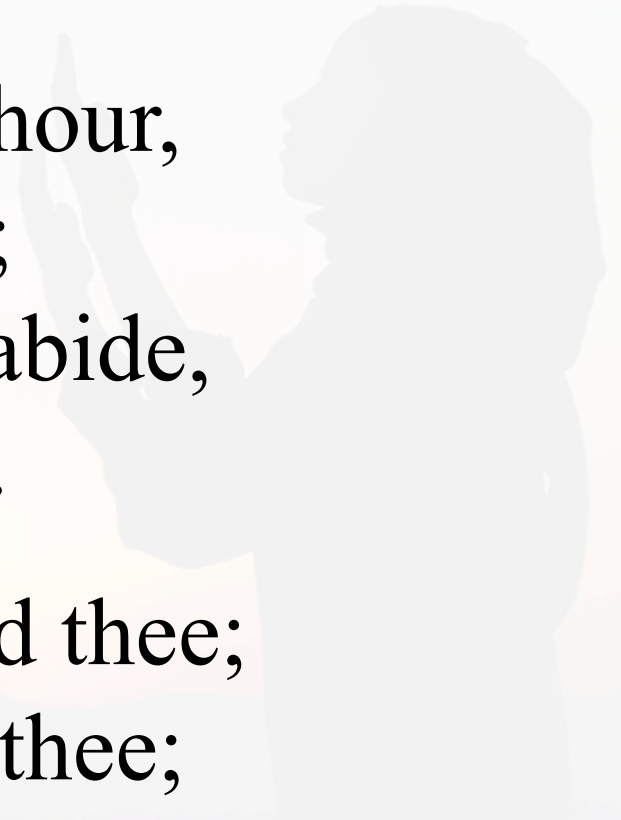
WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I need thee every hour,
in joy or pain;
come quickly and abide,
or life is vain.

I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now my Savior,
I come to thee.



“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

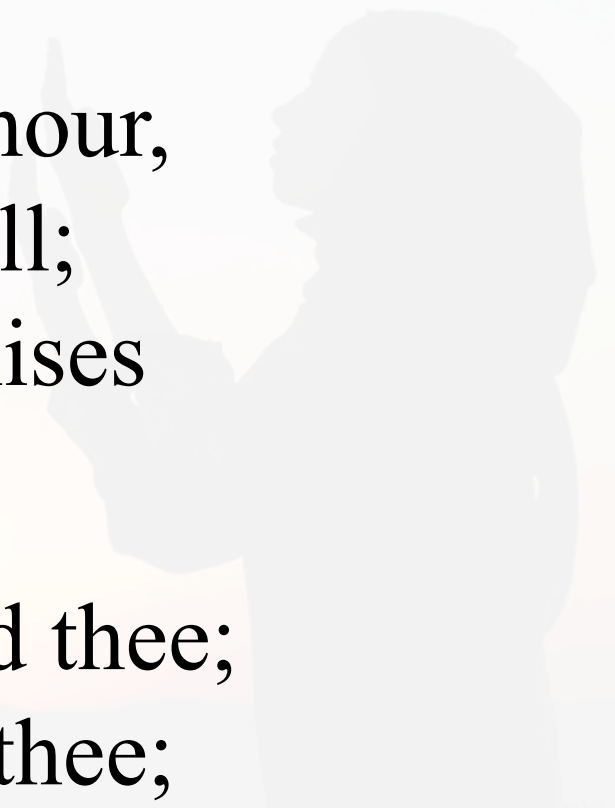
WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I need thee every hour,
teach me thy will;
and thy rich promises
in me fulfill.

I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now my Savior,
I come to thee.



“I Need Thee Every Hour” UMH 397

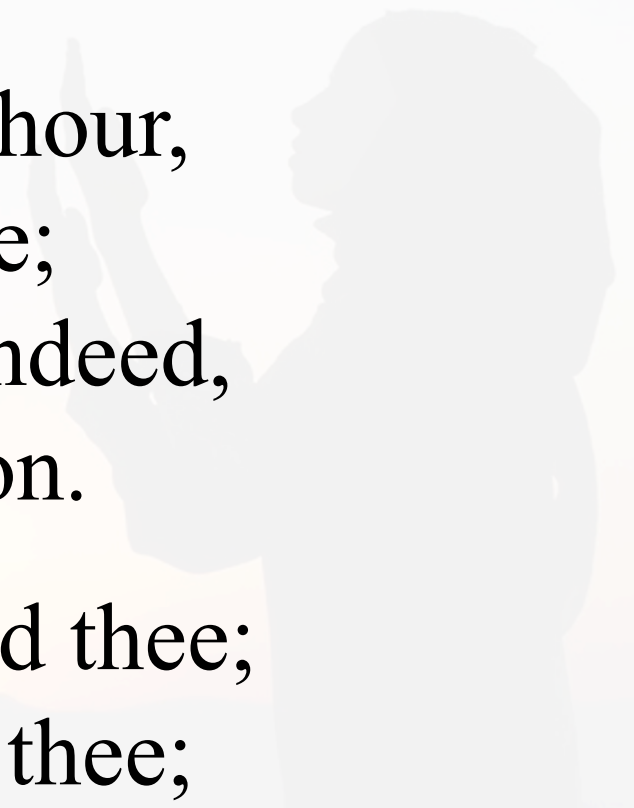
WORDS: Annie S. Hawks, 1872

MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1873

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I need thee every hour,
most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed,
thou blessed Son.

I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee;
O bless me now my Savior,
I come to thee.



**THE APOSTLES' CREED
ECUMENICAL VERSION**

882




I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.







I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,







suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died,
and was buried;
he descended to the dead.






On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and will come again to judge
the living and the dead.





I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.



PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

LORD hear our
prayers



*as we lift up to you our
joys and our concerns.*



Pastoral Prayer

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| ... | 301 |
| ... | 308 |
| ... blung bey | 310 |
| ... Seele | 323 |
| ... en | 323 |
| ... die Abgestorbenen | 327 |
| ... lebenden | 330 |
| ... f. d. Abgestorbenen | 330 |
| ... | 331 |
| ... | 344 |
| ... Magnificat | 346 |
| ... bey aller | 346 |
| ... Jungfrau | 346 |

ten 284
sten 284
In- 286

The background of the slide is a light blue wooden surface with a vertical grain. Scattered across the surface are several white cherry blossoms in various stages of bloom, some fully open with yellow stamens and pinkish centers, and others as single petals. The flowers are primarily located around the perimeter of the slide, framing the central text.

Tithes and Offerings

Worship through giving

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 94

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted by Gilbert H. Viera, 1978

MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623; harmonized by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The image features a light blue wooden background with several white cherry blossoms scattered across it. The blossoms have five petals and prominent yellow stamens. Some blossoms are fully open, while others are in bud. The text 'Offertory Prayer' is centered in a white rectangular box with a thin black border.

Offertory 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,
and deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.



“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home;
swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I looked over Jordan,
and what did I see,
coming for to carry me home?
A band of angels
coming after me,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home;
swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

If you get there
before I do,
coming for to carry me home;
tell all my friends
I'm coming too,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home;
swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

I'm sometimes up,
I'm sometimes down,
coming for to carry me home;
but still my soul
feels heavenly bound,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home;
swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

The brightest day
that I can say,
coming for to carry me home;
when Jesus washed
my sins away,
coming for to carry me home.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” UMH 703

WORDS and MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1987

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home;
swing low, sweet chariot,
coming for to carry me home.



BENEDICTION

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880


Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



Till we meet,
till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus feet;
till we meet,
till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880


Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

God be with you till we meet again;
neath his wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



Till we meet,
till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus feet;
till we meet,
till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880


Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



Till we meet,
till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus feet;
till we meet,
till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880


Please stand as you are able and comfortable.

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.

“God Be With You till We Meet Again” UMH 672

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880 MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

Please stand as you are able and comfortable.



Till we meet,
till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus feet;
till we meet,
till we meet,

God be with you till we meet again.

A photograph of a church with a tall, pointed steeple, situated in a rural setting. The church is reflected in a calm body of water in the foreground. The scene is set during autumn, with trees showing yellow and orange foliage. The sky is overcast with dark clouds. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Question for Reflection

How has God called you into mission today?

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION



Love. Grow. Serve.

This service has ended, and now
your service in the world begins!

Rectortown United Methodist Church

serving God with
Prayer, **A**ction, and **L**ove
through **S**ervice.