

The Worship of God

4th Sunday in Easter • May 3, 2020

PRELUDE *Hymn of Promise* Natalie Sleeth
Gail Thomas, soprano; Rev. Laura Viau, alto; Wayne Tillman, tenor; Chad Hammer, bass

INTROIT *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* MFURAHINI, HALELUYA
TEXT: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1966; trans. Howard S. Olson, 1969 TUNE: Tanzanian melody MFURAHINI, HALELUYA
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CALL TO WORSHIP Larry & Sarah Cook
(All speak parts boldfaced)
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
We are witnesses: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The Risen Christ meets us again and again; opening our eyes and expanding our minds. Let us worship God.

HYMN #238 *Thine Is the Glory* JUDAS MACCABEUS
Robin Fort, alto; Eddie Fort, tenor; Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello
***Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.***

***Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.***

TEXT: Edmond Louis Buddy, 1884; trans. R Birch Hoyle, 1923, alt. MUSIC: George Frederick Handel, 1748, P.D.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Loving God, in a doubting world, keep us alive in our faith that
Jesus is our Messiah, Your son, and our Messiah.
That we may have life in his name.

Encouraging God, in a world that is bound up by fear,
fill us again with your Spirit of love.

For courage comes from the heart.

We bear witness to our faith, knowing that we are called to live lives of courage,
love and reconciliation in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of each day.
We bear witness, too, to our failures, and our complicity in the fractures of our world.

May we be courageous today. May we learn today. May we love today.

In the name of the one who forgives, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen

And in the name of the one who was and is courage,
grace and mercy made flesh: we are forgiven.

Today and always. Alleluia! Amen.

Adapted from Prayers by Pádraig Ó Tuama and B David Hostetter

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

TEXT: Donald Fishel, 1971 TUNE: Donald Fishel, 1971; arr. Betty Pulingham and Donald Fishel, 1979
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GOSPEL READING

John 21:1-19

SERMON

“We’ve All Got Fish to Fry”

Rev. Laura Viau

HYMN #720

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

***Jesus calls us; o’er the tumult of our life’s wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, “Christian, follow me.”***

***In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, “Christian, love me more than these.”***

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852 P.D. MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1887 P.D.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**You could have given up on the world, left us God-forsaken, abandoned to
darkness and despair. You could have shut your ears to our groaning, your
eyes to our bleeding, your heart to our tears. You could have left us to live
with our choices, our death-dealing, our cries of ‘Crucify him!’ But you are
the great Lover, the caring Creator, the Good Shepherd, the mighty Savior.**

In Jesus, you entered our darkness, walking among us with words of love, breathing forgiveness, defeating our demons, with arms wide in welcome. You live among us by your Spirit. You are God, infinitely close. This world is the new heaven—your home among us, and we can never be the same again. Amen. *(Lawrence Moore)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

(inspired by Psalm 30)

.....

you will restore my life.

Let us sing praises to the Lord and praise God's holy name.

.....

While your graciousness will last a lifetime.

Weeping lingers for a night, but joy will come with the morning.

.....

May my praise never be silenced as I give thanks,

praising God for ever and ever.

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

MRURAHINI, HALELUYA

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POSTLUDE

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com);

Robin Fort, Director of Music; **Randy Warner**, Organist/Pianist;

Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Stephanie Reeves**, Church Secretary;

Linda Rowell, Church Treasurer; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;

Hery Ramambaso, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific



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