



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, April 17, 2022

Easter Sunday

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude *Golden Harps are Sounding, Nancy Plantinga*
(by Frances Havergal)
(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit (please stand) *Arise, Shine*

Arise, shine, for your light has come.
And the glory of our God has risen upon you like the sun.
Lift your eyes, look around, rejoice.
Lift your eyes, look around, rejoice.

Call to Worship

Reader: John Willming

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: Hope is alive!

Many: Hope is alive, indeed!

One: New life is on its way!

Many: New life is on its way, indeed!

One: God's love is eternal.

Many: Let's us give thanks for all God has done for us. Amen.

***Opening Hymn,**

Sing With All the Saints in Glory
(Green Gather Hymnal No.442)
(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

O God of Easter Joy, we come this morning with glad shouts of acclamation. The Light of the Christ has risen in our hearts and in our lives. May this time of worship together help us to truly and fully experience this Risen Christ. May we be transformed into your Easter people, shining your Light throughout the earth with messages of beauty, hope, abundance and life. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

***Passing the Peace** *This is the Day*

This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made;

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it;

This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.

Words of Integration & Guidance

Derek Miller

As a Progressive Christian, I have always had quite a few unanswered questions about the event that is commonly known as Easter. Growing up in a conservative household, I was raised to believe that Easter meant a literal, bodily resuscitation of Jesus that occurred on the third day after he gave himself up to be executed for the sins of the world. Although I had long ago dismissed the theory that Jesus died for the sins of the world, it wasn't until I read Rev. John Shelby Spong's book, *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism*, that I became convinced that a physical resuscitation of Jesus had never taken place at all. Spong argues that the resurrection stories are heavily symbolic and must not (along with the rest of the Gospels) be taken literally. Spong's rendering of Easter is not about believing in incongruent stories that have been disproved by the laws of science. Easter, he says, is about realizing that Jesus is the meaning of God. It is Easter that caused the disciples to travel back to Jerusalem six months after Jesus' death to proclaim that "Christ is risen!" and "Death cannot contain his Spirit!" Easter also caused the need for early Christian writers to capture the sentiments in subjective, non-literal words so that we, too, can enter the text and experience the moment anew every day. We, too, can proclaim that Jesus lives on in each one of us as Easter becomes a timeless invitation to enter the meaning of God by living for others, expecting no reward, and loving wastefully no matter what the cost. When we do that, we are Easter people and resurrection becomes real. Very real.

Resurrection Joy!

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Acts 10:34-43

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to John 20:1-18

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

"Resurrection is real"

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

Offering & Offertory *He is Risen*

Jeff Spangler, Nancy Plantinga, and Peter Black

Composers: John Angotti

Palms and Passion**Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell**

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: Alleluia!

One: O God,

Many: Hear our prayer.***Doxology** *Give Thanks to the Lord*

**Give thanks to the Lord for God is good, and God's mercy shall endure.
For God alone has done marv'ulous things, give thanks unto the Lord.
God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.
God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song! Give thanks unto our God.**

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise***Creation's Praise** *Patriquin*

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes, who come in God's name. Hosanna in the
highest.**

(Please be seated)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

Christ is Risen!

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Amen.

***Hymn of Sending**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

(Green Gather Hymnal No.422)

(Find Music at the End of this Program)

Benediction

Postlude

Crown Him with Many Crowns

by GJ Elvey

Nancy Plantinga

Keep up with the Douglas UCC community
and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

Sing with All the Saints in Glory 442



1. Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, Sing the res - ur -
 2. O what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing All that eye has
 3. Life e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who
 4. Life e - ter - nal! O what won - ders Crowd on faith; what



rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,
 yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing,
 once was dead; Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!
 joy un - known, When, a - midst earth's clos - ing thun - ders,



To the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
 Nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
 Child of God, lift up your head! Pa - tri - archs from
 Saints shall stand be - fore the throne! O to en - ter



clouds are break - ing, Soon the storms of time shall cease;
 Christ pre - pares it, There on high our wel - come waits;
 dis - tant a - ges, Saints all long - ing for their heav'n,
 that bright por - tal, See that glow - ing fir - ma - ment,



In God's like - ness, we a - wak - en, Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 Proph - ets, psalm - ists, seers, and sag - es, All a - wait the glo - ry giv'n.
 Know, with you, O God im - mor - tal, Je - sus Christ whom you have sent!

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today 422



1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise him, now his might con - fess, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: St. 1, *Surrexit Christus hodie*, Latin, 14th C.; para. in *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; st. 2, 3, *The Compleat Psalmist*, c.1750, alt.; st. 4, Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: EASTER HYMN, 77 77 with alleluias, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

