

The UNITED CHURCH of GRANVILLE

April 20, 2025
EASTER SUNDAY



FAITH THAT SEEKS, HOPE THAT TRANSFORMS, LOVE THAT WORKS

Good morning! Welcome to this hybrid worship service, which is happening simultaneously in person and online via Zoom. This service will be recorded, and the link will be posted on our Facebook page and our website at <https://www.unitedchurchgranville.org>. If you are joining us via Zoom, please make sure to keep yourself muted during the service. We are glad you are with us!

For those attending in person, we ever-aspire toward the realization of Beloved Community. In our pews, we embrace all persons as worthy of dignity and respect. As such, we exercise care for one another by being sensitive to differences in health, communication, culture, learning, and processing needs - among others. By extension, we continue to defer to each individual's conscience regarding the use of masks at UCG and will maintain our 'mask only' seating in the Sanctuary.

However, please contact the church office if you have any questions or concerns about our practices or have any needs/barriers prohibiting full inclusion and flourishing in this space. Radical inclusion, hospitality, and embrace is our goal.

Furthermore, The United Church of Granville acknowledges that the land on which we gather is the occupied territory of the Shawandassee Tula (Shawanwaki/Shawnee), Kaskaskia, and Hopewell Culture.

Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86148326555>
Meeting ID: 861 4832 6555

GATHERING

Music on the Organ	“I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” “Easter-day” “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”	arr. Robert J. Hughes setting, Clement Loret arr. Harold DeCou
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Welcome and Centering Moment **Claudia Esslinger, Worship Leader**

Prelude: “Grace Medley” **setting:** Daniel B. Towner

Call to Worship

One: Hail and Hallelujah, Christ has risen today!

Many: Let us sing words of praise and thanksgiving!

One: He has overcome the death-dealing ways of the world-

Many: He has triumphed over evil!

One: Come, and proclaim the Good News-

Many: That evil will never have the final word.

One: May trust and hope be ours.

Many: Amen.

***Opening Song: Hymn #233 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (verses 1, 2, & 3)**

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise! Alleluia!

A Reading of “Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front” by Wendell Berry

Love the quick profit, the annual raise,
vacation with pay. Want more
of everything ready-made. Be afraid
to know your neighbors and to die.
And you will have a window in your head.

Not even your future will be a mystery
any more. Your mind will be punched in a card
and shut away in a little drawer.
When they want you to buy something
they will call you. When they want you
to die for profit they will let you know.
So, friends, every day do something
that won't compute. Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.
Take all that you have and be poor.
Love someone who does not deserve it.
Denounce the government and embrace
the flag. Hope to live in that free
republic for which it stands.
Give your approval to all you cannot
understand. Praise ignorance, for what man
has not encountered he has not destroyed.
Ask the questions that have no answers.
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.
Say that the leaves are harvested
when they have rotted into the mold.
Call that profit. Prophesy such returns.
Put your faith in the two inches of humus
that will build under the trees
every thousand years.
Listen to carrion — put your ear
close, and hear the faint chattering
of the songs that are to come.
Expect the end of the world. Laugh.
Laughter is immeasurable. Be joyful
though you have considered all the facts.
So long as women do not go cheap
for power, please women more than men.
Ask yourself: Will this satisfy
a woman satisfied to bear a child?
Will this disturb the sleep
of a woman near to giving birth?
Go with your love to the fields.
Lie easy in the shade. Rest your head
in her lap. Swear allegiance
to what is highest your thoughts.
As soon as the generals and the politicos
can predict the motions of your mind,

lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.
Practice resurrection.

Children's Chat

Offering

Offertory

Special Music

Danielle Gassman, voice

Doxology

A Reading of John 20: 1-18

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance, so she ran off to Simon Peter and the other disciple—the one Jesus loved—and told them, "The Rabbi has been taken from the tomb! We don't know where they have put Jesus!"

At that, Peter and the other disciple started out toward the tomb. They were running side by side, but then the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He didn't enter, but bent down to peer in and saw the linen wrappings lying on the ground. Then Simon Peter arrived and entered the tomb. He observed the linen wrappings on the ground, and saw the piece of cloth that had covered Jesus' head lying not with the wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the disciple who had arrived first at the tomb went in. He saw and believed. As yet, they didn't understand the scripture that Jesus was to rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Meanwhile, Mary stood weeping beside the tomb. Even as she wept, she stooped to peer inside, and there she saw two angels in dazzling robes. One was seated at the head and the other at the foot of the place where Jesus' body had lain.

They asked her, "Why are you weeping?"

She answered them, "Because they have taken away my Rabbi, and I don't know where they have put the body."

No sooner had she said this than she turned around and caught sight of Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus. He asked her, "Why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?"

She supposed it was the gardener, so she said, "Please, if you're the one who carried Jesus away, tell me where you've laid the body and I will take it away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned to him and said, "Rabboni!" —which means "Teacher."

Jesus then said, "Don't hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to Abba God. Rather, go to the sisters and brothers and tell them, I'm ascending to my Abba and to your Abba, my God and your God!"

Mary of Magdala went to the disciples. "I have seen the teacher!" she announced. Then she reported what the savior had said to her.

***Song of Response: Hymn #237 "I Come to the Garden Alone (In the Garden)"**

I come to the garden alone,
while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.
And he walks with me,
and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing.
And he walks with me,
and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

I'd stay in the garden with him,
though the night around me be falling;
But he bids me go: through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling.
And he walks with me,
and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

Message

"From Eulogizing to Eastering"

Rev. Alissia J. Thompson

Blessing of the Milagros

Song of Reflection: Hymn #238 "Now the Green Blade Rises" (verses 1, 2, & 3)

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain:
Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that their Love would never wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus, who for three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Connecting and Prayer for Our Joys and Concerns (in person and with our Zoomcommunity)

**All: Hear our prayers, O God. We lift our joys and concerns,
 spoken and unspoken, to you. When we are in need,
 draw us together, and cover us in your grace. Grant us
 peace, so that we may share your love with the world. Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

***Closing Song, Hymn #240 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (verses 1, 2, & 5)**

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

To the tomb the women bring, Alleluia!
Spices rich, an offering. Alleluia!
Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia!
Savior come to set us free, Alleluia!

Christ appears in full array, Alleluia!
Sing with joy this Paschal day, Alleluia!
Christ now from the dead is raised, Alleluia!
Holy Trinity be praised, Alleluia!

Sending

"La Rejouissance"
Elizabeth, Xander and Jim Hu-Vanreeth, violin

by G.F. Handel

Postlude

Fanfare and Statement on “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”
arr. Edward Broughton / Jackie Dawson, organ

() You're invited to rise in body or in spirit!*

Everyone is welcome to stay for the Children's Easter egg hunt after worship!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PROVIDED FLOWERS TODAY!
PLEASE TAKE YOUR FLOWERS WITH YOU AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY.

The UNITED CHURCH *of* GRANVILLE

Rev. Alissia J. Thompson, Pastor
Jackie Dawson, Accompanist
Rev. Craig Showalter, Interim Church Administrator
Mathew McFarren, Property & Grounds Coordinator

A special thanks to Worship Team members!

Church office hours are 9AM to 3PM
Monday, Thursday, Friday

OFFICE CLOSED: Monday, April 21, 2025

Find out how to give to UCG online by following this link:

<https://www.unitedchurchgranville.org/stewardship-and-giving.html>