



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 7, 2024 11:00 AM



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

As a courtesy to
others, please
silence your phone.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND INVITATION

Rev. Graham Hart

PRELUDE

Steal Away

Spiritual/arr. Robert Powell

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dick Clapp

We gather to praise and worship God,
the one who created us for love.
We gather to worship the true vine,
the one in whose love we abide.
Easter people, Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN 245

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

LLANFAIR

"Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

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

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

* Please rise in body
or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**You have shown yourself to us, O God,
by Word and Spirit,
with signs and wonders,
in flesh and blood,
yet we still struggle to live and believe
the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**Have mercy on us; forgive us.
Enter into our lives
and cast out our fear
so that we may come to trust in you
and have life in Jesus' name. Amen.**

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF JOY 623** (vv. 1 & 2) *I've Got Peace like a River* PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.
(twice)

I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.
(twice)

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Steven Phillips

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

The Storm is Passing Over
(The Chancel Choir)

Charles Tindley/arr. Baker

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sue Hargis Spigel

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Being Church and Bearing Witness in Cuba

Rev. Graham Hart
Dick Clapp
Sue Hargis Spigel
Rick Foltz
Carol Papa

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Graham Hart

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PARTAKING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Carol Papa

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Diane Bish

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise Christ, all people here below;

praise Holy Spirit evermore;

praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

What is the nature of resurrection hope?

**Resurrection hope is a hope for
the transformation of this world,
not a hope for escape from it.**

**It is the hope that evil in all its forms
will be utterly eradicated,**

that past history will be redeemed,

and that all the things that ever were will be made new.

It is the hope of a new creation,

a new heaven and a new earth,

in which God is really honored as God,

human beings are truly loving,

and peace and justice reign on earth.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 248

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosana!

HYMN TO JOY

- | | |
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| <p>1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.</p> <p>2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.</p> | <p>3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!</p> |
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*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Graham Hart

POSTLUDE

Improvisation: *May the God of Hope Go With Us*

Argentinian Hymn

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

THE 2024 CUBA MISSION TEAM

Dick Clapp, Rick Foltz, Sue Hargis Spigel, Graham & Linda Hart
Elaine Moffitt, Ken & Carol Papa, Jay Swick, and Nancy Wellinhoff

