



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

The Prelude

The Call to Worship

Leader: My heart is glad!

People: My soul rejoices, and my body rests secure!

Leader: For you do not abandon me.

People: You give me counsel.

Leader: You are at my right hand.

People: You show me the path of life.

Leader: Your presence is sheer joy.

People: You are my God; apart from you, I have no good.

Blessed is your name!

The Hymn TFWS No. 2084

Come, Let Us With Our Lord Arise

SUSSEX CAROL

1. Come, let us with our Lord arise,
our Lord, who made both earth and skies;
who died to save the world he made,
and rose triumphant from the dead;
he rose, the Prince of life and peace,
and stamped the day forever his.

2. This is the day the Lord has made,
that all may see his love displayed,
may feel his resurrection's power,
and rise again, to fall no more,
in perfect righteousness renewed,
and filled with all the life of God.

3. Then let us render him his own,
with solemn prayer approach his throne,
with meekness hear the gospel word,
with thanks his dying love record,
our joyful hearts and voices raise,
and fill his courts with songs of praise.

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The Opening Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Stand among us once again, risen Christ, and bless us with your greeting:

"Peace be with you." Stand among us once again, Exalted Brother, and breathe upon us your promised Spirit. Stand among us once again, you who have escaped death, and give us new birth into your living hope. Amen.

The Greetings and Concerns of the Parish

The Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson

I Peter 1:3-9

The Hymn UMH No. 311

Now the Green Blade Riseth

FRENCH CAROL

1. Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springth green.
2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom we had slain,
thinking that he never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springth green.
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springth green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springth green.

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The Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

Parting Gifts

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

The Affirmation of Faith

Affirmation from I Corinthians and Colossians

UMH #888

Leader: This is the good news
which we have received,
in which we stand,
and by which we are saved:

**People: Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross
reconciles all things to God. Amen.**

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The Offertory Prayer

The Solo

The Holy City

Stephen Adams

Last night I lay a-sleeping, there came a dream so fair,
I stood in old Jerusalem, beside the temple there;
I heard the children singing, and ever as they sang,
Methought the voice of angels, from heav'n in answer rang.

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, lift up your gates and sing,
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to your King!*

And then methought my dream was changed,
The streets no longer rang,
Hushed were the glad Hosannas the little children sang;
The sun grew dark with mystery, the morn was cold and chill,
As the shadow of a cross arose, upon a lonely hill.

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, hark how the angels sing,
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to your King!*

And once again the scene was changed, new earth there seemed to be,
I saw the Holy City beside the tideless sea;
The light of God was on its streets, the gates were open wide,
And all who would might enter, and no one was denied.
No need of moon or stars by night, or sun to shine by day,
It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away.

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, sing for the night is o'er!
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna for evermore!*

Words by F. E. Weatherly. Music by Stephen Adams. Public Domain.

The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

The Hymn TFWS No. 2085

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

1. He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
Hallelujah forevermore.
2. He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace
Hallelujah forevermore.
3. He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.

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The Benediction

The Postlude

We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.

Senior Pastor: Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults: Rev. Drew Willson
Accompanist: Lee Covington
Soloist: Sam Cook
Video: Rachel Bates

Scriptures

1 Peter 1:3-9

A Living Hope

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20:19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.