



Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
April 12, 2020  
**Easter Sunday**

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# Easter Sunday

## April 12, 2020

### Blessing of Hope

*So may we know  
the hope  
that is not just  
for someday  
but for this day --  
here, now,  
in this moment  
that opens to us:  
hope not made  
of wishes  
but of substance,  
hope made of sinew  
and muscle  
and bone,  
hope that has breath  
and a beating heart,  
hope that will not*

*keep quiet  
and be polite,  
hope that knows  
how to holler  
when it is called for,  
hope that knows  
how to sing  
when there seems  
little cause,  
hope that raises us  
from the dead—  
not someday  
but this day,  
every day,  
again and  
again and  
again.*

--Jan Richardson

Welcome

Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash

Prelude

Were You There (Verse 4)

Dot Bowe

I Know That My Redeemer Lives - S. Soper

Greeting

Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

# Resurrection Hymn

## Christ the Lord is Risen Today

*(Max Evrard, Elena Snow-Evrard, Dot Bowe, Kevin Morrison)*

1 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!

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

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

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

28 <sup>1</sup>After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.’ <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings!’ And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’

# Come You Faithful - NCH 230 (2 verses)

Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought all Israel  
into joy from sadness;  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

Spring has dawned on earth today  
Christ has burts from prison  
And from three days sleep in death  
As the sun has risen  
All the winter of our sings,  
Long and gray is flying  
From the light to whom we give  
laud and praise undying

1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;  
2 Spring has dawned on earth to - day; Christ has burst from pris - on,  
3 Now the joy - ous sea - son, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dim por - tal,

God has brought all is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;  
And from three days' sleep in death as the sun has ris - en;  
With the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joys to ren - der;  
Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal;

Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
All the win - ter of our sins, long and gray, is fly - ing  
Comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem who with true af - fec - tion  
But to - day a - mid the twelve you still stand, be - stow - ing

Led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
From the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
Wel - comes in un - wear - led strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.  
Peace and joy which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

# I Come to the Garden - NCH 237

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 give to me  
Within my heart is to 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*

1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the  
2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their  
3 I'd stay in the gar - den with him, though the night a - round me be

ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the  
sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that he gave to me with -  
fall - ing; But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

*Refrain*  
Son of God dis - clos - es.  
in my heart is ring - ing. And he walks with me, and he  
voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the  
joy we share as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known,

The musical score is written in 8/8 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system is marked 'Refrain' and repeats the lyrics. The score concludes with a final cadence.

Easter Litany

Julia Johnston

Leader: We come to this moment,  
seeking Jesus in the familiar story of our faith.  
Do not meet us only now, O Living Christ,  
but surprise us with Resurrection power

**People: in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We gather to sing and pray the story we know by heart,  
a story of loving triumph and powerful grace.  
This story of “Alleluia!” means great joy  
for the One who lives and the ones who witness to this new life

**People: in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We rejoice and thank you for the life of your son,  
resurrected by the power of your loving, vibrant Spirit.  
Let this same Spirit fill us,  
that we may know the truth of resurrection

**People: in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We join our hearts in song and sing  
“Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!”  
for Christ is living and so are we!

**People: Alleluia indeed!**

Hymn

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! (#257 NCH vs 1-2)

Max Evrard and Elena Snow

Opening Prayer

Julia Johnston

Good News God,

In the midst of deep sorrow and grief  
your angels appeared to the faithful women of Jesus' company,  
bringing them news more awe-inspiring than they could imagine –  
Christ is Risen!

Surely your angels can interrupt our lives, too,  
breaking into our losses and sorrows  
and offering a message of tremendous joy to change our lives.

Come this Easter morning, we pray,  
and fill us with the joy of the women disciples,  
the first witnesses to your resurrection,  
that our lives may also be renewed in hope and glory.

Let us roll back the stone of the grave  
and sing Alleluia once again!

In Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Anthem

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

Elena Snow

Children's Message

Sarah Fuller

Resurrection Hymn

Halle, Halle! (WE RECOMMEND DANCING!) #236 NCH

Dot Bowe

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah (x3)  
Hallelujah, hall-le-lujah

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

Resurrection Hymn

Halle, Halle! (WE RECOMMEND DANCING!) #236 NCH

Dot Bowe

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah (x3)  
Hallelujah, hall-le-lujah

Prayers of the People

Offering

Introduced by Sarah Fuller

Offertory Music

Hymn To Joy (arr. J. Cotter)

Dot Bowe

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Resurrection Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today #240 NCH

Max Evrard and Elena Snow  
accompanied by Dot Bowe and Kevin Morrison

# Resurrection Hymn Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

(Max Evrard, Elena Snow-Evrard, Dot Bowe, Kevin Morrison)

Jesus Christ is ris'n 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!

There the angel clothed in white, Alleluia!

Tells the news with great delight, Alleluia!

This the news the angel gives, Alleluia!

That the sovereign glorious lives.

“Hasten now to Galilee,” Alleluia!

“Tell the others what you see,” Alleluia!

With excitement trembling, Alleluia!

Off they run good news to bring, 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!

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 To the tomb the wom - en bring, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 There the an - gel clothed in white, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 "Has - ten now to Gal - i - lee," Al - le - lu - ia!  
5 Christ ap - pears in full ar - ray, Al - le - lu - ia!

Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Spic - es rich, an of - fer - ing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Tells the news with great de - light, Al - le - lu - ia!  
"Tell the oth - ers what you see!" Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sing with joy this Pas - chal day, Al - le - lu - ia!

Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ask - ing where might Je - sus be, Al - le - lu - ia!  
This the news the an - gel gives, Al - le - lu - ia!  
With ex - cite - ment trem - bling, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ now from the dead is raised, Al - le - lu - ia!

Suf - fer to re - deem our loss, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sav - ior come to set us free, Al - le - lu - ia!  
That the Sov - ereign glo - rious lives, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Off they run, good news to bring, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ho - ly Trin - i - ty be praised, Al - le - lu - ia!

Here is the Easter call for us today:

We will seek the risen Jesus in every time and place.

**We will connect across the miles, through technology and prayer.**

We will not seek comfort only in the familiar, but dare to risk newness of thought and newness of action –

**We know that Resurrection makes all things new!**

We will not cling to all the old, expected notions about God, Jesus, Spirit,  
but go forth and celebrate this truly new Good News:

**Because Christ lives, new possibilities are ever before us!**

We will speak for life and justice, hope and courage, in these trying days,

**Because Christ lives, we live!**

While the church buildings may be closed this Easter morning,

**The Church is alive, just as Christ is alive!**

Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen Indeed!**

Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Amen!**

**Alleluia! in All the Places of our Lives! Service Prayers for Easter Day** was written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley, Minister and Team Leader for MESA (Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization), UCC. She and the rest of the national staff are praying for all of our congregations this Easter season.

# This Easter Celebration

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

Aurelia

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

1. This Eas - ter ce - le - bra - tion is not like ones we've known.  
2. No gath-ered choirs are sing - ing; no ban-ners lead the way.  
3. Our joy won't come from wor - ship that's in a crowd-ed room  
4. In all the grief and suf-fering, may we re-mem-ber well:  
5. We thank you that on Eas - ter, your church is blessed to be

We pray in i - so - la - tion, we sing the hymns a - lone.  
O God of love and prom - ise, where's joy this Eas - ter Day?  
but from the news of wom - en who saw the emp - ty tomb.  
Christ suf - fered cru - ci - fix - ion and faced the powers of hell.  
a scat - tered, faith - ful bo - dy that's do - ing mi - ni - stry.

We're dis - tant from our neigh - bors— from wor - ship lead - ers, too.  
With sanc - tu - a - ries emp - ty, may homes be - come the place  
Our joy comes from di - sci - ples who ran with haste to see—  
Each Eas - ter bears the pro - mise: Christ rose that glo - rious day!  
In homes and in the pla - ces of help and heal - ing, too.

No flo - wers grace the chan - cel to set a fes - tive mood.  
we pon - der re - sur - rec - tion and ce - le - brate your grace.  
who heard that Christ is ris - en, and then, by grace, be - lieved.  
Now no - thing in cre - a - tion can keep your love a - way.  
we live the Eas - ter mes - sage by glad - ly serv - ing you.