



Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
April 11, 2021  
The Second Sunday of Easter

Image: LeCompte, Rowan and Irene LeCompte. Christ shows himself to Thomas, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54879> [retrieved April 5, 2021]. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/maryannsolari/5119341372/>.

Music streamed in today's service

Lift High the Cross - arr. Larry Shackley  
Thine Is the Glory - NCH #233  
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain - David Schelat  
Let It Breathe on Me - NCH #288  
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones - Jan Nieland

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***Today's service will be  
recorded.***

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Prelude

Lift High the Cross

Larry Shackley

Welcome and Announcements

Sarah Fuller

Call to Worship

Susan Fagerstrom and Sarah Fuller

We give thanks for the blessedness of unity.

Our unity is a precious gift that brings us together as one. We give thanks for the uniqueness of each of us, evidenced in our unity. We are one in God, and each uniquely created in the image of God.

We give thanks for the blessedness of diversity.

Our unity is marked by our diversity, a patchwork quilt of colors, thoughts, theologies and ideologies, created in the image of God.

We give thanks for the blessedness of community.

Our unity is our strength. We come from different places, some places readily written on our faces, contributing to the whole the gifts we bring, that enhance our common life.

We give thanks for the blessedness of Spirit.

Our lives are good and pleasant when we choose to live together in unity, guided by the Spirit, held together by unconditional love.

We give thanks for the blessedness of the Divine.

Ours is a journey together that transcends the differences we identify. We are inextricably woven together, tied to a common cause, we are united in our quest for justice we are committed to serving God.

We give thanks for the blessedness of unity.

## Opening Prayer

God of life, we worship you.

God of creation, we praise you.

God of revelation, we learn from you.

God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you.

Amen!

Susan Fagerstrom

# Opening Hymn **Thine Is the Glory** - Pilgrim Hymnal #193

193

Thine Is the Glory

Edmond L. Budry, 1854-1932  
Tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939JUDAS MACCABEUS 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5. with Refrain  
Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759

1 Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded grave-clothes Where thy body lay.

[Refrain:]

*Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.*

2 Lo! Jesus meets thee, Risen from the tomb;  
Lovingly he greets thee, Scatters fear and gloom;  
Let his church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing,  
For her Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

3 No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life!  
Life is nought without thee; Aid us in our strife;  
Make us more than conquerors, Through thy deathless love;  
Bring us safe through Jordan To thy home above. [Refrain]

1 Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con - quering Son; End - less is the  
2 Lo! Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb; Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of life! Life is nought with -

vic - tory Thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; Aid us in our strife; • Make us more than con - quering,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;  
Through thy death - less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

REFRAIN  
Where thy bod - y lay.  
Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con - quering Son;  
To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - tory Thou o'er death hast won.

19 It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.”

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.”

22 Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

24 Thomas, the one called Didymus (the Twin), one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

26 After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

28 Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

29 Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

30 Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. 31 But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

Children's Message

Sarah Fuller

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

Passing the Peace

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**Our Father (Creator), 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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Sarah Fuller

Offertory

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

David Schelat

Doxology (#515 Red)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

or

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Sarah Fuller

Generous and surprising God,  
when we thought that death  
had claimed your Son,  
you amazed us with the resurrection.  
Surprise us again  
with your ability to turn these humble offerings  
into gifts that will transform the world  
through our witness to your love.  
We lay our very lives at your feet, O God,  
knowing that you will use us  
to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen.

# Closing Hymn **Let It Breathe on Me** - New Century Hymnal #288

- 1 Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me,  
let the breath of the Spirit breathe on me.  
Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me,  
let the breath of God now breathe on me.
- 2 While I'm working, God, in your vineyard here,  
I cannot serve without you near; O come,  
blessed Spirit, so close to me that  
I may feel you breathe on me.
- 3 When the pathway, God, I cannot see,  
when the way is hard, O breathe on me;  
Give me grace to know when you are near,  
then, I pray, O Spirit, breathe on me.

## Let It Breathe on Me

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*Magnolia Lewis-Butts, 1941; alt.*

*Job 33:4; Ezek. 37:1-14; John 20:19-23*

1 Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the breath of the  
2 While I'm work - ing, God, in your vine - yard here, I can - not  
3 When the path - way, God, I can - not see, when the way is

Spir - it breathe on me. Let it breathe on me, let it  
serve with - out you near; O come, blessed Spir - it, so  
hard, O breathe on me; Give me grace to know when

breathe on me, let the breath of God now breathe on me.  
close to me that I may feel you breathe on me.  
you are near, then, I pray, O Spir - it, breathe on me.

Benediction

Rev. Reebee Girash

Postlude

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Jan Nieland

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**Source Notes:** Living Psalm 133 was written by the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, Associate General Minister of the United Church of Christ. The Opening Prayer is from *Life in Liturgy*; the Prayer of Dedication is by Laura Jaquith Barlett.

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