First United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation  
Easter Sunday Worship  
April 12, 2020, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude  
Partita on ‘This Joyful Eastertide’  
Paul Bouman (1918-2019)

Lighting of the Candle

Sung and Signed Call to Worship  
You are invited to share in the ASL interpretation of Alleluia, along with singing  
All respond: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Easter Proclamation  
The congregation is invited to speak the words in bold.

One: Sisters, brothers, siblings in the Spirit, grace and peace to you this Easter Day!  
All: And to the whole world, peace, love, and light.  
One: From shadow to sunrise,  
All: from despair to hope,  
One: from the hallowed silence of death  
All: to the trumpet sounds of new life,  
One: God’s presence meets us here.  
All: God’s love and joy surround us now.  
One: Then open your hearts to listen for it!  
All: May God open our lips to sing it, proclaim it, and shout it out with joyful abandon.  
One: Christ is risen!  
All: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen!

Opening Hymn  
Christ the Lord is Risen Today  
#233  
Easter Hymn

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!  
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!

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!
Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

A Time with Children
  God’s word is for all God’s children. Come gather, come gather.
  You’re never too old for stories. Come listen, come listen.

Scripture  
  Mark 16  
  Eslinger-Perkins family

Sermon  
  Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

Hymn  
  Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain  
  #230  
  St. Kevin

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
Of triumphant gladness;  
God has 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.  

Now the joyous season, bright  
With the day of splendor,  
With the royal feast of feasts,  
Comes its joys to render,  
Comes to glad Jerusalem,  
Who with true affection  
Welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus’ resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death,  
Nor the tomb’s dim portal,  
Nor the watchers, nor the seal  
Hold you as a mortal,  
But today amid the twelve  
You still stand, bestowing  
Peace and joy which evermore  
Passes human knowing.

Sung Call to Prayer  
  Alleluia!  
  Alice Parker (1925-)

Pastoral Prayer

Response  
  Alleluia!  
  Alice Parker

Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to unmute and speak the words most meaningful to you or follow with the version here:
Our God, 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.

**Offertory**

*This Easter Celebration*  
*Lancashire*

*Please join in singing:*

This Easter celebration is not like ones we've known;  
We pray in isolation, we sing the hymns alone.  
With sanctuaries empty, may homes become the place  
We ponder resurrection and celebrate your grace.

Our joy comes not from worship that fills a crowded room  
But from the news of women who saw the empty tomb.  
Our joy comes from disciples who ran with haste to see,  
Who heard that Christ is risen, and then by grace believed.

We thank you that on Easter your church is blessed to be  
A scattered, faithful body engaged in ministry.  
In homes and in the places of help and healing, too,  
We live the Easter message by gladly serving you.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (2020)

**Prayer of Thanks**

Living God, long ago, women proclaimed the Good News of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Help us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our hearts as generous. Thanks be to you, our Creator. Amen.

**Hymn**

*This Joyful Eastertide*  
*Vruechten*

#232

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst from three days' prison,  
Our faith had been in vain,  
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen!

Because you live, o Christ, the garden of the world has come to flower,  
The shadows of the tomb are flooded with your resurrection power.  
The stone has rolled away, and death cannot imprison.  
O sing this Easter day,  
For Jesus Christ has risen, has risen, has risen, has risen!
Benediction

Hallelujah Chorus

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever, king of kings and lord of lords.

(Rev. 19:6, 11:15, 19:16)

The music is available at the end of the bulletin to foster our harmony!

Postlude

Symphony #5: Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Special thanks today to our trumpeter, Marty Hodel

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!
Please join us after worship for Zoom Coffee Hour if you would like to briefly check-in.

News to Note

Giving to the Church
Due to Stay at Home orders and in an effort to slow the spread of Covid-19, we are worshiping online and connecting in small groups virtually. We still need your gifts! You may give electronically by visiting clicking the "Donate Online Now!" button on the homepage of the church website, firstucc.org. You may also visit our website and complete the electronic giving authorization form and mailing it to Finance Manager Andrea Pegram at church. Gifts may be mailed to First UCC, 300 Union Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministries!

Bean Soup Kit Update

A note from the Middle School Youth Group: If you ordered bean soup kits from the youth group but were unable to pick them up the Sunday they were available, please know that we will get your kit to you when we are able to do so! They are at the church, and we will connect with you when circumstances improve. Thank you for your understanding. Are you missing your bean soup instructions? Here you go!

Directions For Making Your Rainbow Bean Soup:

- Remove the seasoning packet and set aside.
- Rinse beans and place them in a microwave-safe dish. Cover with water 1-2" over the beans.
  Cover dish loosely with plastic wrap and microwave on high 10 minutes, rotating after 5 min.
- Drain and rinse beans very well. Place beans in a large pan. Add 4 cups of water, one 14 oz can crushed tomatoes, and seasoning from the packet.
- Cover and bring to a boil. Lower heat, cover pan, and simmer for 1 1/2 hours or until beans are tender. Stir occasionally. Enjoy!
**Minnesota Food Share**
March was Minnesota Food Share month, and First UCC graciously donated a total of $1,325 via the Food Share special collection on March 15. Thank you for your generosity! These financial gifts have been given to the Northfield Community Action Center food shelf to support local food needs in our community.

**ISAIAH: A New World is Possible!**
*You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. Isaiah 58:12*

This week, Isaiah leaders across the state talked about the depth of our current crisis and the need to take leadership. As we heard, “Crisis are moments when political, social, and economic dynamics are contested…. A new world is possible. But it is not inevitable.” Action is needed to build the better world we envision and tend to the immediate needs of those in pain.

Over 200 clergy, including our own pastors, gathered virtually on Thursday to hear from the Governor and Lieutenant Governor; they will hear from the House Majority Leader this week. On Saturday, leaders across southern MN laid plans for a “Community Care Conversation Campaign.” Isaiah will launch 30,000 conversations across the state to hear how people are doing and help ground them in the values of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

We hope you can join us in this work. If you would like more information about Isaiah or want to be part of local and regional meetings—and aren’t already on the Isaiah email lists—please email Carolyn at c.fureslocum@gmail.com, Leota at leotagoodney@hotmail.com, or Matt at rohn@stolaf.edu.

**Earth Day 2020**
It’s the 50th anniversary of Earth Day! “Plug into Climate Action” at the 11th Annual Northfield Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 25th, 2020, Live Online! Find links to our online sessions at www.northfieldearthday.com and like us on Facebook at Northfield Earth Day Celebration.

**Care Ministry Team**
A note from the UCC Care Ministry Team: WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! Please know that the Care Ministry Team wants to know if you have any needs that can be met by us or members of our congregation. We serve as the extra eyes and ears of the church, so please speak with any member of our Care Team if you or someone you know is in need of extra support—anything from meals, child care, crisis help or weekly check-ins. We can connect you with congregational support. You can also continue to check in with the pastor. Our team is: Barb Altstaetter 507-645-9786, Barbara Crouter, Amanda Pettis Eastvold, Linda Larson 612-709-6795, Elizabeth O’Sullivan, Bill Poehlmann 507-645-5422, Katharine Powers, Claire Rafferty, Kathy Sandberg, Jan Shoger 507-645-5236, Kellee Tussing, Gina Washburn, Claire Rafferty, Bonnie and Larry Fowler 507-645-6930.
Hallelujah
From Messiah

Revelation 11:15, 19:6, 16

George Frideric Handel
1685-1759

Allegro
God Omni-po-tent reign-eth, Hal-le-lu-jah, Hal-le-lu-jah, Hal-le-lu-jah, for the Lord


Hal-le-lu-jah, for the Lord


A. for the Lord God Om-ni-po-tent reign-eth, Hal-le-lu-jah.

T. for the Lord God Om-ni-po-tent reign-eth, Hal-le-lu-jah.


S. le-lu-jah! The King-dom of this world is be-come the King-dom of our Lord and of His

A. Hal-le-lu-jah! The King-dom of this world is be-come the King-dom of our Lord and of His

T. le-lu-jah! The King-dom of this world is be-come the King-dom of our Lord and of His

B. le-lu-jah! The King-dom of this world is be-come the King-dom of our Lord and of His

S. Christ, and of His Christ,

A. Christ, and of His Christ,

T. Christ, and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ev-er and ev-

B. Christ, and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ev-er and ev-


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Lords, King of Kings,

for ever and ever, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, for ever and ever, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

for ever and ever, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, for ever and ever, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

and Lord of Lords, and Lord of Lords, and He shall reign, and

Hallelujah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and He shall reign, and He shall

Hallelujah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and He shall reign, and He shall reign,

Hallelujah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and He shall reign, and He shall reign for ever and ever,

He shall reign for ever and ever, for ever and ever,

reign for ever and ever, King of Kings for ever and ever, and Lord of

and He shall reign for ever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of

and He shall reign for ever and ever, King of Kings, for ever and ever, and Lord of

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