

First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
April 11, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [virtual visitor card](#).
For ASL interpretation, please use the “pin” function in Zoom for the video of Mary Jo Cristofaro.

Prelude *Thine Is the Glory* Charles Ore (1936-)
Marty Hodel, trumpet

Testimony and Welcome Bill Poehlmann

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Gathering Music *The Fountain of Life* Marty Haugen (2002)

Love is flowing from the fountain of life.
Peace is pouring from the fountain of life.
Hope is springing from the fountain of life.

Call to Worship adapted from Craig Mitchell

One: Easter is not an event that has occurred
not a place that we have visited

Many: but a path on which we stand.

One: Easter is a story unfolding
characters still breathing

**Many: stations still teeming
with the promise of new life.**

One: Easter is the season
of wild hope
of dangerous intent

Many: of potent promise.

One: Today we continue the journey
we re-enter the story

to explore our questions
to uncover our doubts

Many: to face our need.

One: We walk the path
of two who traveled a dusty road
wrapped in confusion and despair,

**Many: two who shared the company of a
stranger**

voicing their pain

airing their fears;

and in the listening

heard words of hope and promise,

and in the eating

received true bread of life.

Opening Hymn *Thine Is the Glory* Judas Maccabaeus

Thine is the glory, resurrected Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,

Conquered is the grave in which your body lay.
Thine is the glory, resurrected Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious lord of life;
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph
sing,

For our Christ is risen, death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, resurrected Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

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

Luke 24:13-35

Carol Rutz

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Kaghondi

Prayer Hymn

Stay with Us

Stay with us till night has come;
Our praise to you this day be sung.
Bless our bread, open our eyes;
Jesus, be our great surprise.

Walk with us; our spirits sigh.
Hear when our weary spirits cry;
Feel again our loss, our pain;
Jesus, take us to your side.

Stay with us till day is done;
No tears nor dark shall dim the sun;
Cheer the heart, your grace impart;
Jesus, bring eternal life.

Sung Call to Prayer

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

The Prayers

You are invited to share prayers with the congregation using the Zoom chat function.

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayers and Reflection

Sung Response

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to unmute and pray 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

The Spacious Firmament on High

Janika Vandervelde (2003)

Andrea Een, violin

This anthem was commissioned by our church with support from the Faith Partners program of the American Composers Forum.

The Spacious Firmament on high,
With all the blue Ethereal Sky,
And spangled Heav'ns, a Shining Frame,
Their great Original proclaim:
Th' unwearied Sun, from day to day,
Does his Creator's Pow'r display,
And publishes to every Land
The Work of an Almighty Hand.

Soon as the Evening Shades prevail,
The Moon takes up the wondrous Tale,
And nightly to the list'ning Earth
Repeats the Story of her Birth:
Whilst all the Stars that round her burn,
And all the Planets, in their turn,
Confirm the Tidings as they rowl,
And spread the Truth from Pole to Pole.

What though, in solemn Silence, all
Move round the dark terrestrial Ball?
What tho' nor real Voice nor Sound
Amid their radiant Orbs be found?
In Reason's Ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious Voice,
For ever singing, as they shine,
The Hand that made us is Divine.

–Joseph Addison (1712)

Prayer of Thanks

adapted from Carol Penner

Spirit of the Living God, like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. We invite you to be with us as we offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts. May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among us, now and always. Amen.

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;
We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,
For we too want to follow and raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
The whole world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.

Benediction

Postlude

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

David Cherwien (1957-)

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!
We will gather in Breakout Rooms for conversation and community following the Postlude.

News to Note

Welcome to worship at First UCC! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [virtual visitor card](#). Other questions about our community? Please contact Pastor Wendy (pastorwendy@firstucc.org) or Pastor Lauren (pastorlauren@firstucc.org).

New Member Orientation

Join Us! First UCC will welcome new members on Sunday, May 16 during Sunday worship on Zoom. A New Member Orientation session will be held via Zoom after the worship on May 2 at 11:45 a.m. Interested in attending orientation? Contact Jean Haslett, Membership Team Chair, hasletts66@yahoo.com or 507-650-0753.

Sunday, April 18: Guest Preacher and Author Rev. Dr. Jim Antal

In keeping with our passion for the care and keeping of God's creation, we will be joined on April 18 by guest preacher and author Rev. Dr. Jim Antal. Jim's book [Climate Church, Climate World](#) is available in the

church office for a discounted price of \$20 (checks made to First UCC). You can schedule pick-up of a book with Green Bouzard at church@firstucc.org

Other Upcoming Events

April 12-14, Red Cross Blood Drive on site at First UCC, 12-6p; [sign up to donate on the Red Cross website](#)

April 13, First UCC Women's Group, 10-11a on Zoom; contact [Judy Kinstad](#) for Zoom login

April 17, Local ISIAH Meeting, 10a-12p on Zoom; [register to attend](#)

Giving to the Church

In this time of pandemic, we are worshipping online and connecting in small groups virtually. We still need your gifts! You may give electronically by visiting our website and clicking the ["Donate Online Now!"](#) button, under the Giving tab. You may also visit our website and complete the [electronic giving authorization form](#) and mailing it to the church % "The Treasurer." 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!

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, rides, deliveries of essential needs (groceries, meds, etc.), or weekly check-ins. We can connect you with congregational support. You can also continue to check in with the pastors. Our team is: Barbara Crouter (507-645-6592); Linda Larson (612-709-6795); Elizabeth O'Sullivan (507-321-1221); Bill Poehlmann (507-645-5422); Katharine Powers (651-492-5488); Kathy Sandberg (507-210-2219); Jan Shoger (507-645-5236); Kellee Tussing (952-210-4028); Gina Washburn (507-210-8270); Bonnie and Larry Fowler (507-645-6930).

For additional news and announcements, please visit firstucc.org/contact-us/the-chronicle/ and subscribe to receive weekly updates. Click on "Past Issues" to see previous weeks' editions.

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First United Church of Christ Leadership and Staff

Ministers—all the people

Moderator—Sam Steinberg

Interim Senior Minister—Wendy Vander Hart

Minister for Congregational Life—Lauren Baske Davis

Director of Music—Chris Brunelle

Organist—Theo Wee

Sexton—Mark Fischer

Spirit Voices Director/Arts Coordinator—Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Director of Communications & Operations—Green Bouzard