



Gathering Music

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise
Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Thine Be the Glory

Arr. Catherine McMichael

Grant Sears, Violin; Anne Botka, Cello; April Kuhr, Piano

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Prelude: *Allegro from Sinfonia to “Hydaspes”*

Francesco Mancini

Dan Lundberg, Trumpet

Choral Introit: *Hallelujah, Amen* (from Judas Maccabaeus) George Frideric Handel
The United Festival Choir

***Call to Worship** (Responsive – congregation reads **bold** text)

Beloveds, rejoice! Do not look for signs of life amidst the halls of cruelty—

Systems of evil cannot overcome Hope;

Forces of oppression cannot destroy Love.

The Way-Makers are walking around in the Garden of Life—

Pulling weeds of despair, tending to the ways of thriving.

Alleluia! The Holy is alive within us!

Praise the God of New Life even amidst grief,

Praise the God of Possibility even when all seems lost.

The stone of despair has been rolled away!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen Indeed!

***Opening Hymn:** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

NCH 240

LLANFAIR

Community Prayer – Plant in us, O God, Your visions of restoration. We long to be a field where all your hope blossoms; Make our hearts places of refuge, for every shattered dream of peace. Let our imagination run wild, as dreams of Justice are birthed from within. We don’t want to waste this life shackled by despair, confined by fear, strangers to the miracle of being alive. We want to be fully awake to all the beauty that surrounds us. We want to be determined in hope – relentless pursuers of what could be. We want to be a messenger of belonging, to every soul that weighs heavy under narratives of bigotry or hate. We have known what it is to be a stranger to joy. Living Christ, we have seen the ways of death—codified into law, pumped into air, leaked into soil, invested in weapons used against us. And oh! We ache for ways of life. When the onslaught of systems of violence overwhelms us, awaken within us the ways of care set before us for this day. This ancient story of love, sustaining generation after generation, in labors of liberation – it frees us from our fear. No longer will we view life on the empire’s terms. No more will we submit to rules of white supremacy, misogyny, and greed. In the freedom of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

** You are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

***Passing of the Peace**

As we pass the peace of Christ to friends, family, and neighbors,
speak the ancient greeting that rings in our Easter ears:

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Congregational Chorus: *Hallelujah Chorus*

George Frideric Handel

Time on the Quilt

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Special Music: *All Earth Rejoice with a Gladsome Voice*
The United Festival Choir

Vivaldi/Hopson

Sermon:

Pastor Lara

Communion Hymn: *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name* #510 COME, SHARE THE LORD

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Communion Hymn

Prayer of Dedication

Sabbatical Liturgy

***Closing Hymn:** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #611

HYMN TO JOY

Charge**Benediction**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Postlude: *Festival Alleluias*

William Ferris

The United Festival Choir, Dan Lundberg, Trumpet, Grant Sears, Conductor

If you are visiting, you are invited to place a visitor card/prayer card in the offering

box located at the back of the sanctuary on your way out. Thank you for being in worship with us today. We hope you will stay and enjoy refreshments with us after the service and come back again and let us get to know you.

Special thanks to all who participated in today's Service, including Anne Botka, Grant Sears, Dan Lundberg, and the United Festival Choir:

Sopranos: Peggy Charlesworth, Brenda Hatcher, Sharon Hubbell, Kathy Humphrey, Donna Lotton, Jeanne Myers, Deborah Reynolds, Hedy Schoonover, Therese Sprunger

Altos: Laura Fairbanks, Anne Fritzel, Bunny Hooper, Ellen Lundberg, Genny Matteson, Marcia McLaughlin, Char McMullen, Jude VanBuren

Tenors: Bob McMullen, Jon Hubbell

Basses: David Anderson, Peter Cook, Tim Devine, Chas Dreyfus, Ron Humphrey, Dan Meuse Paul Nelson, Lou Sequeira

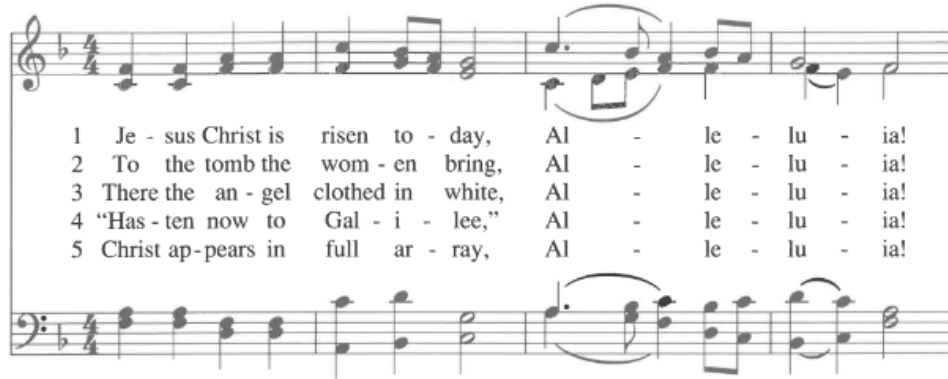
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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 3 pm
The office is CLOSED on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

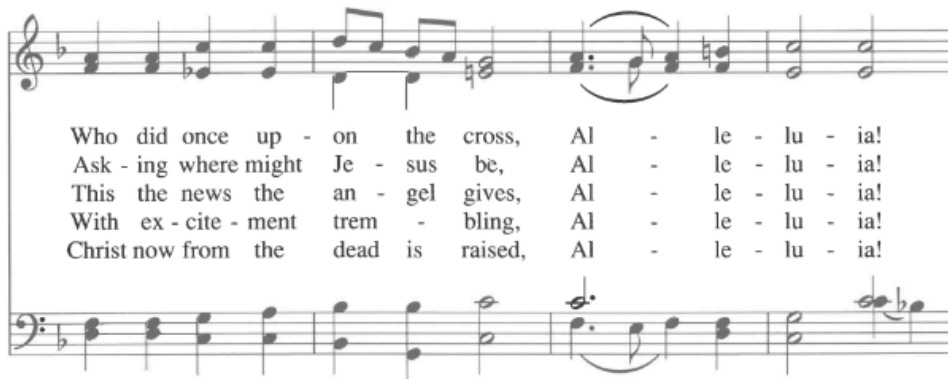
Matt. 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10

St. 1 transl., Lyra Davidica, London, 1708
St. 2-5 transl., The New Century Hymnal, 1994


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!

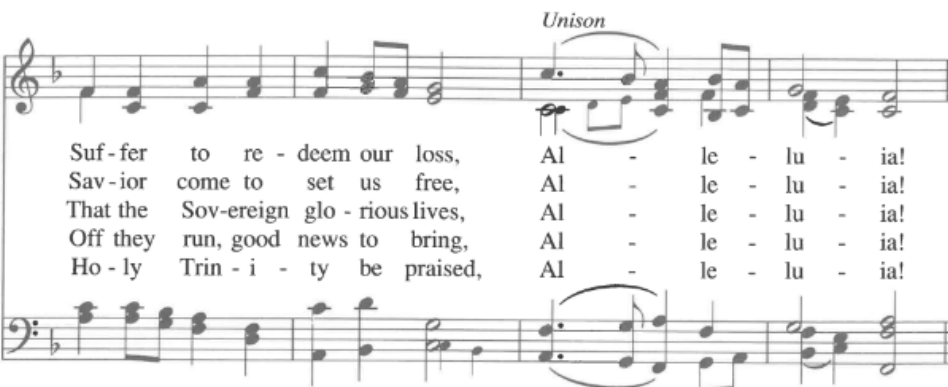


Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Spic - es rich, an of - fer - ing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Tells the news with great de - light, Al - le - lu - ia!
 "Tell the oth - ers what you see!" Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sing with joy this Pas - chal day, Al - le - lu - ia!



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!

Unison



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!

510 We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

Come, Share the Lord

Capo 3: (G) B \flat (D) F (Em7) Gm7

1 We gath - er here in Je - sus' name;
 2 He joins us here; he breaks the bread;
 3 We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;

(D) F (Asus) Csus

his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;
 the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;
 we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;

(A7) C7 (D) F (A) C (D) F

for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:
 the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
 now we an - tic - i - pate the feast for which we wait:

(G) B \flat (D) F (Em) Gm (A) C (D) F *Fine*

come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

C7 F B \flat C7 F

(1) No one is a strang - er here; ♪ ev - ery - one be - longs.
 (2) We are now a fam - i - ly, of which the Lord is head.

(G) B \flat (A7) C7 (D) F (Bm) Dm (Em7) Gm7 (Asus) Csus (A) C

Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.
 Though un - seen, he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

The center of this text recalls Christ's post-Resurrection meal at Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), a reminder that the Risen Christ is in our midst when two or three gather in his name (Matthew 18:20) and share a foretaste of the Heavenly Feast (Matthew 26:29/Luke 22:18/Mark 14:25).

611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

7

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re - flect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be - fore thee, o-pen-ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife.

Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

TEXT: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

HYMN TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D

Announcements for the Week of March 31, 2024

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

[Zoom links are in the Weekly E-blast or call the office]

SUNDAY: March 31st

Easter

- 8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel
- 10:10 AM Congregational Hallelujah Chorus Rehearsal – All are welcome!
- 10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Monday, April 1st

Easter Monday – Church Office is CLOSED

Tuesday, April 2nd

- 5:30 PM Youth Group Meeting in Room 213 – Dinner and Movie

Wednesday, April 3rd

- 10:15 AM Lively Lectionary in the Fireside Room
- 12:15 PM “We Gotta Pray” service in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 4th

- 1:00 PM Thursdays Together in the Fireside Room
- 8:30 PM Centering Prayer via Zoom

Saturday, April 6th

- 11:00 AM Memorial service for Kari Qvigstad in the Sanctuary

Note: Piececrafters is postponed until May 4th

SUNDAY: April 7th

Communion

- 8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel
- 10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Jeff, AnnElise & Gabe Fishel and family on the death of **Kari Qvigstad** on March 4.

Kari's memorial service will be at United on **April 6 at 11am.**

Heather Highmiller passed away on March 21. A service is planned for July.

Diane Charlesworth recovering at Panorama C&R.

Paul McCann recovering from shingles.

Keith Henderson for healing from pain.

Prayers for those with COVID and for their caregivers.

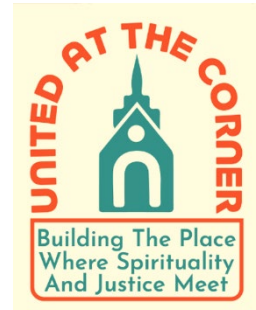
Ongoing Prayers: **Julie Clark, Janet Huntley, Karen LaFreniere, Tom Skjervold, Ellen Sweetin & Janet Tolman**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTE: **Pastor Lara** begins her 3-month sabbatical tomorrow. **Pastor Andy CastroLang** will be preaching and performing other duties part-time through June.

♦ **United at the Corner - Capital Campaign Update**

As of March 21st, **93** households have made financial commitments to United at the Corner totaling **\$1,188,775**. This is good news! We have made amazing progress toward our stretch goal of \$1.5 million. Thank you to all who have pledged for your contribution toward the ministry and legacy of this church. We will share the total number of pledges and amount raised today!



We are happy to share that the Congregation for Interfaith Celebration (CIC), which this year is celebrating 50 years of worshipping in our social hall, has enthusiastically engaged with United at the Corner. CIC will add its participation in the campaign in the coming weeks.

If you were not able to turn in a pledge by Palm Sunday, we hope that you will still consider a contribution. This effort includes our whole church family, and every contribution matters whether large or small. For information about the capital campaign, contact Amanda Hutson at ahhutson.01@gmail.com

♦ **"We Gotta Pray" at United on Wednesdays - Join Us!**

Each **Wednesday** at 12:15 PM, we are having a 30-minute prayer service in the Sanctuary which will include: music, singing, Taizé hymns, and meditation.

♦ **Save the date! Save the time! UCC Congregation Meeting at United**

The UCC Congregation of The United Churches of Olympia will be meeting on **Sunday, April 7** between the two worship services so that more can attend. We'll start about 9:40am after the 8:30 service and be over before the 10:30 service starts (we'll meet in the Chapel).

Our business includes:

- Electing a UCC Moderator*
- Electing a UCC Clerk/Secretary*

- Elect 2 delegates** to attend the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC Annual Meeting to be held at Plymouth UCC in Seattle April 26-28.

*If you are interested, please contact me at 360.951.9342 or JoanK16@gmail.com.

** Sandee Sennes and Joan E. Knapp have volunteered, but if you are interested, please contact Joan.

◆ **United's Food Drive Has Returned**

We are collecting non-perishable food on the first Sunday of the month to be delivered to the Thurston County Food Bank. Please drop off your items in the Narthex next **Sunday, April 7**.

◆ **Join us for a Yard Clean-Up at United**

It's springtime and time to get our hands dirty! Join us on **Saturday, April 20** from 9am-Noon in the upper parking lot. Bring a bucket, gloves and a favorite gardening tool. Please RSVP with Jessica: rentals@theunitedchurches.org



◆ **Green Team at United**

The Green Team is so happy to announce that United Churches has been certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)! The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to take care of the earth. To become an Earth Care Congregation, Council affirmed an Earth Care Pledge to integrate environmental practices and thinking into our worship, education, facilities, and outreach. So look out for more opportunities to think, pray, and act Green!

◆ **Work Party at Pilgrim Firs**

Sign up with Lauren Jenks atlaurenjenks@gmail.com to attend this year's Work Camp on **April 12-14**. There is no cost to attend! You can stay at the camp and eat their delicious food, and during the day, help with various projects, depending on the weather and your ability. It's okay to have no special skills. We might clean, paint, rake, power wash, or remove brush. You can stay for the day or for the whole weekend.

◆ **Scheduling Events at the Church**

As a reminder, please contact our new Facilities Coordinator, **Jessica Babcock** rentals@theunitedchurches.org, if you'd like to schedule an event or use the building. If you have a group that already meets regularly, don't forget to send your announcements to **Severin**: media@theunitedchurches.org so they can be

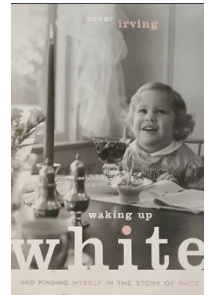
included in the Eblast. Please email Severin no later than Friday before the Eblast goes out.

♦ **Are you a UCC Member?**

Would you be interested in being a delegate at the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ (PNCUCC) Annual Meeting 2024? This year it's at Plymouth United Church of Christ in Seattle on **April 26-28**. PNCUCC is excited to host ministry partners from Colombia, welcome new congregations into the Conference and engage with our new General Minister & President of the UCC, the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson! Although registration including for delegates is now open (see latest eblast for the link), if you want to be a delegate from The United Churches of Olympia, the UCC Congregation needs to elect you officially. So, please, email me at JoanK16@gmail.com if you'd like to be a delegate. Thanks!

♦ **United's Book Study Group**

The Study Group will be reading *Waking Up White* by Debbie Irving. The book is divided into 9 parts, each with short sections. **We will meet every two weeks on Monday at 1pm, in the Youth Room 213 on the main floor at United.** If you'd like to join us, or have questions, email **Brenda Hatcher** at bwhatcher@comcast.net. You are also welcome to just show up! **Next meeting: April 8.**



*Thank
You*

Special Thanks to **April Kuhr, Dan Colgan, Will Stuiwenga, Dennis E. Northway** and **Jordan Nylander** for a fabulous Holy Week Organ Concert held last Monday at United. The concert was sponsored by the American Guild of Organists.

♦ **Parking Reminder**

United members, friends and visitors can continue to park in the lot that was sold on Union Ave and Washington St after 5pm weekdays and on weekends. This policy will remain in effect until TVW's construction starts. After the construction ends, this parking policy will resume in the new parking garage.

♦ **United's COVID Policy**

If you have any COVID symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat, please take care and join us for our Zoom service at 10:30am.

♦ **SAVE THE DATE**

April 28 – Breaking the Silence Sunday

June 29 – Olympia Pride Festival

June 30 – Pride Sunday & Oly Pride Parade
Aug 23-25 – Pilgrim Firs Retreat

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Staff Contacts Office: 360-943-1210 **Email:** admin@theunitedchurches.org

Rev. Lara Crutsinger-Perry (<i>she/they</i>)	Pastor x101; lara@theunitedchurches.org
Jessica Babcock (<i>she/her</i>)	Facility Coordinator x102 ; rentals@theunitedchurches.org
AnnElise Fishel (<i>she/her</i>)	Child & Youth Program Coordinator; annelise@theunitedchurches.org
Severin Gardner (<i>they/he</i>)	Media & Streaming Technician ; media@theunitedchurches.org
Vix Grosso (<i>all pronouns</i>)	Media & Streaming Intern
Amanda Jones (<i>she/her</i>)	Bookkeeper ; bookkeeper@theunitedchurches.org
April Kuhr (<i>she/her</i>)	Music Director x105 ; april@theunitedchurches.org
Jennifer Molfetta (<i>she/her</i>)	Administrator x100 ; jennifer@theunitedchurches.org

Church Council

Kathleen Clark – Moderator	Amanda Hutson – Vice Moderator	
Deborah Reynolds – Clerk	David Anderson – Treasurer	
Beth Barron	Dave Carmer-Hall	Dana Leavitt
Donna Lotton	Dana Nojima	Eunice Robb
R. Peggy Smith	Momo Watson	Jenn Wulf

Volunteer Ministry Chairs: Lisa Carroll, Chair – Congregational Life
 Brenda Hatcher, Co-Chair – Community Connections
 Peggy Charlesworth, Chair – Personnel

We are an evolving Christian community seeking justice in the way of Jesus.