

St. John's United Church of Christ
April 4, 2021 – 10 AM
Easter Sunday – Holy Communion

Gathering Words

“This is the Day”

Unison Welcome

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here”

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

“The peace of Christ be with you”

“And also with you”

Prelude

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship

from Whispers of God: Liturgical Resources for Year B

God is acting in our midst as we gather to celebrate the good news.

This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Death has no claim on those who live in Christ Jesus.

We shall not die, but we shall live and recount the deeds of God.

By God’s grace Christ died for our sins and appears among us now to claim our loyalty.

Open the gates of righteousness that we may enter.

God has answered us in Christ, our salvation.

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Invocation

from Whispers of God: Liturgical Resources for Year B

God of Unexplained Mysteries and Unexpected Events, we rejoice in the good news of Easter. Good triumphs. There is healing salvation for all people of the earth. We have at hand a promise of peace the world cannot give. May the power of Christ’s presence be so real to us here in worship that we are forever changed and made whole. Amen.

Collect

from Whispers of God: Liturgical Resources for Year B

As we listen for your word, call us by name, O God, as Jesus spoke to Mary in the garden. May the scriptures speak directly to our souls, moving us to a deeper relationship with you and fuller commitment to the work you call us to do. Roll away the stones that imprison our minds and hearts so we may know the healing touch of the risen Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Acts 10:34-43; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Responsive Reading

“Bread of the Word, In Mercy Broken” by Reginald Heber

Bread of the world, in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed,

By Whom the words of life were spoken, And in Whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed;

And be Thy feast to us the token, That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

Children’s Sermon

Lisa Frantz

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in remembrance of Sue Powell by Lee Powell and family.

Worship Resources:

Prayers have been reprinted by permission, from *Whispers of God: Liturgical Resources for Year B* by Lavon Bayler. © 1987 The Pilgrim Press.

Prayers have been reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion* © 2013.

Prayer of Thanksgiving reprinted from *Book of Worship* © 1986 by permission of the United Church of Christ, Local Church Ministries.

<https://www.journeywithjesus.net/poemsandprayers/570-reginald-heber>

EASTER LILIES 2021

In memory of:

Charles W. Karper and Hazel Karper Rumler, given by Sandy and Bob Lewis, Cookie and Jerry Miller and families.

Karl Pound and our parents, given by Lynda Pound.

Our parents, given by John and Nina Widmann.

Elton Shelly and Thomas Shelly, given by Sally Shelly, the Ecton family, Lisa Hull and family.

My beloved husband Jack and my parents, Richard and Norma, given by Roxanne Davenport.

Karl Pound and Pete and Imelda Blumberg, given by the Blumberg family.

Sue Powell, given by Lee Powell and family.

Maurice L. Marotte Jr., given by the Marotte family.

Parents Virginia and Clarence Tarner and sister Janice Crawford, given by Mike and Carol Marotte.

Gaylord Peters, Blair and Brooks Peters, and many St. John's friends, given by Beverly Peters.

Mickey Scubelek, given by Edna Scubelek.

Homer and Fanny Bailey, given by Edna Scubelek.

Sue Powell, Judy Houser, and Bev McNew, given by Sue McMurtray.

Patricia Saxton, given by Rev. Caroline E. Saxton.

In honor of:

Our grandchildren Mackenzie, Cooper, Madeleine and Isabella Miller, given by Cookie and Jerry Miller.

Bob and Connie Strunk, given by Sue McMurtray.

John E. Saxton, given by Rev. Caroline E. Saxton.

St. John's Consistory and St. John's staff, given by Rev. Caroline E. Saxton.

To the Glory of God:

From the Marotte family.

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology

We believe in You, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to Your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being,
create persons in Your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
You judge people and nations by Your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
You have come to us,
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death,
and reconciling the world to Yourself.

You bestow upon us Your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into Your Church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be Your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at His table,
to join Him in His passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust You
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
Your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in Your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto You. Amen.