

3rd Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022



Feed My Sheep



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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The Family of God Gathers

Gathering Music

“Amazing Grace”

Please let the prelude be a signal to prepare for worship.

Greeting

Call to Worship ‡

L: Now is the time to sing! To sing the good news of God:

P: who awakens us with dawn’s embrace, who surrounds us with joy and life.

L: Now is the time to offer praise to God, in every place, with every voice:

P: to rejoice in the One who leads us through each moment with a gentle hand and a word of hope.

L: Now is the time to join all creation in extolling God, from the depths of the sea to the farthest galaxies:

P: We will sing the good news of Easter! We will rejoice in the God who loves us.

Opening Hymn 171 Bulletin page 9

“Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult”

Prayer of Confession ‡§

Now that Easter is done and gone, Holy One, the special music is losing its charm and we again fall back into listening to temptation’s familiar refrains. We wander the crooked streets to our old haunts. Rather than living in the newness you bring, we do things the way they have always been done, even knowing that they are unhealthy for us and contrary to your will. Forgive us, God of seaside breakfasts. You know the way out of our messy lives, so take us by the hand to lead us. Wipe our busy schedules off our calendars so we may spend more time with those who need our love and attention. Challenge us to fish from the other side of our worries, so we may pull in all the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

L: Whenever we turn back to our merciful creator, God is always ready with open arms and a meal prepared on the shores of our repentance. In Jesus' name, you are forgiven!

P: You are forgiven!

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

The Sign of Peace

Now please take a moment and share the peace with those in your household and/or offer a moment to send prayers of peace to those you love who are not with you.

Centering Song Verse 4 Bulletin page 10

“Jesus Come! For We Invite You

The Service of the Word

Psalm 30

L: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

P: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

L: O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

P: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

L: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

P: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

L: As for me, I said in my prosperity, “I shall never be moved.”

P: By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

L: To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:

P: “What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?

L: Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

P: Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!”

L: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

P: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Offering

Doxology

**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.**

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †§

Worthy are you, life-giving God. Receive these gifts of our thanksgiving and use them for building your realm to lift up your people. Amen.

Communion

Hymn 330 Bulletin page 11

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Prayer †§

L: May the God of morning joy be with you!

P: May the God of gracious moments be with you!

L: Lift your hearts to God, children of love and hope!

P: We offer them to the One who fills us with life!

L: Let us sing glad praises to our God!

P: Our voices join all creation in glad songs!

L: You spoke creation into existence, Wondrous God: majestic eagles and tiny hummingbirds, graceful giraffes and awkward aardvarks, earthworms and moles, hermit crabs and sea horses. Dust could not praise you, so you gathered it up, using it to shape us in your image, giving to us the gifts found in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. But we foolishly fell into the snares that death digs to trap us. You sent the prophets to remind us that you had created us for so much more but we ignored their words, preferring the ways of power and selfishness. Dismayed, you could have hidden your face, but sent us your heart instead, your son, Jesus. So with those whose nets are empty of hope, with those whose lives overflow with grace, we raise our voices in praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy are you, God who loves us more than these.
Creatures of heaven and earth join in extolling you.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the Lamb who is worthy.
Hosanna in the highest!**

L: Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who feeds us life. When we cried, he came to wipe away our tears; when we were speechless, he taught us songs of praise; when we dressed in ashes, he gave us grace's garments; though we loved our comforts and our safety more than we loved him, he went to the cross, filling death's nets with his spirit, so its power over us might be emptied forever.

P: Lead us by the hand, gracious God, to the Table where the bread, the cup, and the guests all receive the Spirit which is poured out upon them. As we come to eat of the bread, may its brokenness give us strength to stand up to persecutors of the most vulnerable; to challenge those who love themselves more than the frightened and lonely. May the cup of life fill us with the courage to feed those who hunger for grace and hope; to tenderly care for those discarded by the world.

L: Then, when the Lamb gathers those of every time and place for the Supper of Joy in eternity, we will fall down and worship you.

All: Amen.

The Story

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, 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.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Closing Hymn 243 Bulletin page 12

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

Benediction †§

L: Jesus said, “Feed my lambs; tend my sheep.

P: Feed my sheep, and follow me.”

L: Go now to fulfill his wishes, and may you be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to do all that God asks of us.

All: Amen!

Postlude

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 1 ©2012 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

† <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. David Huber • Ministers: All the people of Plymouth • Pianist: Lynn McFadyen • Liturgist: Mimi Pederson

We of Plymouth extend to you our hand of fellowship and an invitation to become a member. If you are interested, or have any questions, please speak with or send a note to Pastor David or our Moderator, Barb Kleist. Our table always has room for more.

Cross Illumination for May is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in honor of Plymouth congregation.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, May 1

Community Table offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Communion Worship

Tuesday, May 3

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, May 8

Mothers' Day

Prayers for the People

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

We pray for:

- The leadership and staff of Plymouth United Church of Christ

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.



1 Je - sus calls us, o'er the
 2 As of old, Saint An - drew
 3 Je - sus calls us from the
 4 In our joys and in our
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your



tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea; Day by
 heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake, Turned from
 wor - ship of the trea - sures we a - dore, From each
 sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease, Je - sus
 mer - cies, Sav - ior, may we hear your call, Give our



day that voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low
 home and toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus'
 i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me
 calls, in cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than
 hearts to your o - be - dience, serve and love you best of



Last time only

me," say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 sake, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 more," say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 these, Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 all, serve and love you best of all.

David Hurd is an internationally recognized organist and composer who has served on the faculty of General Theological Seminary and Manhattan School of Music. This tune was composed especially for this text and should be performed simply, like a folk song.

Tune: ST. ANDREW 8.7.8.7.7.

David Hurd, 1980

Alternate setting: GALILEE

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle ©1982 Jubilate Hymns

Music: Harold Fridell ©1957, 1985 H.W. Gray

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Let Us Break Bread Together

Acts 2:42

African-American spiritual



- 1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
 * 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



My God, have mer-cy on me.

* "Share the cup" may be substituted for "drink wine."

The earliest version of this spiritual probably began with the current stanza three, and was a song some of the enslaved in Virginia used when gathering for secret meetings. The communion stanzas were added some time after the Civil War.

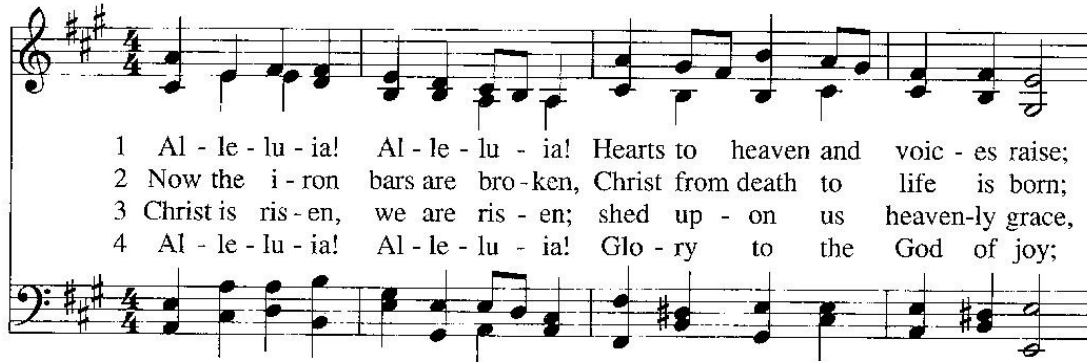
Tune: LET US BREAK BREAD
 10.10. with refrain
 Harm. David Hurd, 1983

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

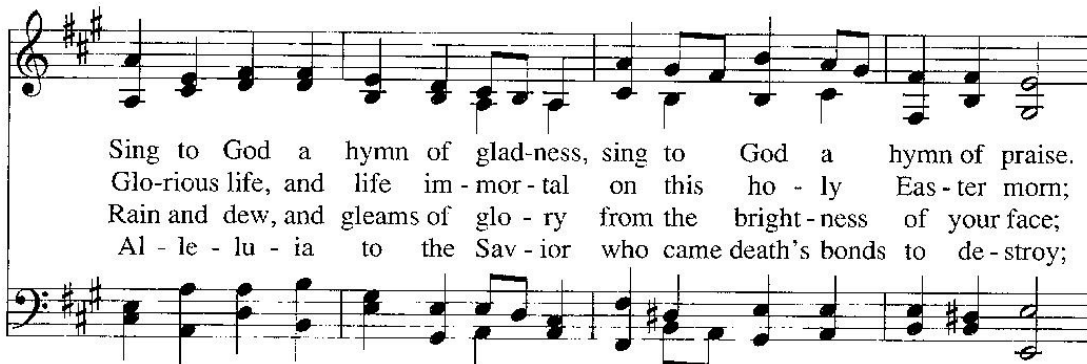
243

Christopher Wordsworth, 1872; alt.

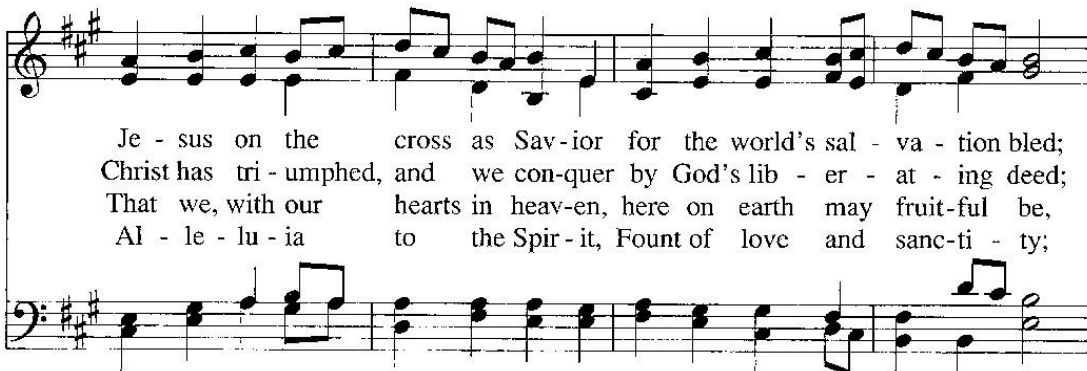
Matt. 28:5-8; Rom. 5:21; 6:4-11; 1 Cor. 15:20-22



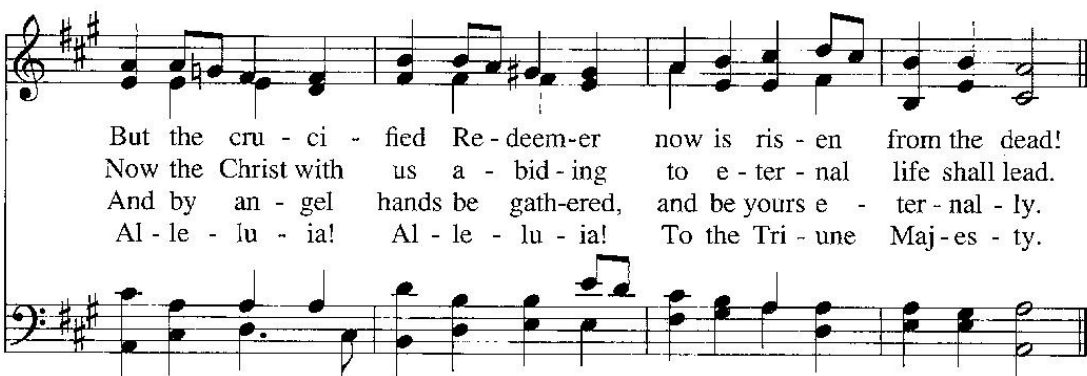
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise;
 2 Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born;
 3 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en; shed up - on us heav - en - ly grace,
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to the God of joy;



Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
 Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal on this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
 Rain and dew, and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of your face;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who came death's bonds to de - stroy;



Je - sus on the cross as Sav - ior for the world's sal - va - tion bled;
 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by God's lib - er - at - ing deed;
 That we, with our hearts in heav - en, here on earth may fruit - ful be,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;



But the cru - ci - fied Re - deem - er now is ris - en from the dead!
 Now the Christ with us a - bid - ing to e - ter - nal life shall lead.
 And by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be yours e - ter - nal - ly.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

Christopher Wordsworth, gifted nephew of poet William Wordsworth, served the Church of England successively as canon at Westminster, parish priest in Berkshire, and, finally, bishop of Lincoln. This Easter hymn is one of his most enduring.

Tune: WEISSE FLAGGEN 8.7.8.7.D.
 Tochter Sion, Cologne, 1741
 Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

Who we are...

Plymouth UCC is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, since we are all created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status and background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, humor, and blessings of participation in our congregation.

Spiritual Care Package

Questions for Reflection

Jesus chose Peter, who had denied him in his hour of need, to tend his sheep and build his church. He chose Paul, who had persecuted Jesus' followers, to proclaim the good news of the gospel. Can anything separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ? What has Jesus chosen and called you to do?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus Christ, as you met your disciples just after daybreak on the beach, meet us at the dawning of this new day. As you filled their nets with fish, fill our lives with love and grace, more than we can ask or imagine. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Gracious God, we praise you for the blessing of this day and the promise of tomorrow. Be our helper as the night falls and our joy when the morning comes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God is still speaking,