

WORSHIP ORDER - St. John's UCC
Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024

PRELUDE

“Gwalschmai from Four Carol Preludes”

Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ

be with you all.

People: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Let us rise and greet one another with words of peace and remain standing for our song of centering.

We greet one another with signs and words of peace.

*SONG OF CENTERING

“This is the Day”

Melody

F F#sus4 Eb Bb Db Bbm7 C7

This is the day the Lord _ has made; let us re-joice and be glad. _____

F F#sus4 Eb Bb Db C7 F (Fine)

This is the day the Lord _ has made; let us re-joice and be glad. _____

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song "This is the Day". The first staff is labeled "Melody" and includes the lyrics "This is the day the Lord _ has made; let us re-joice and be glad. _____". Above the staff are the chords: F, F#sus4, Eb, Bb, Db, Bbm7, and C7. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics "This is the day the Lord _ has made; let us re-joice and be glad. _____" and includes the chords: F, F#sus4, Eb, Bb, Db, C7, and F. The second staff ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine" in parentheses.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

Liturgist: Though darkness seems to envelop us.

People: Jesus breaks through with a word of peace.

Liturgist: Fears are banished!

People: Hope is more than restored.

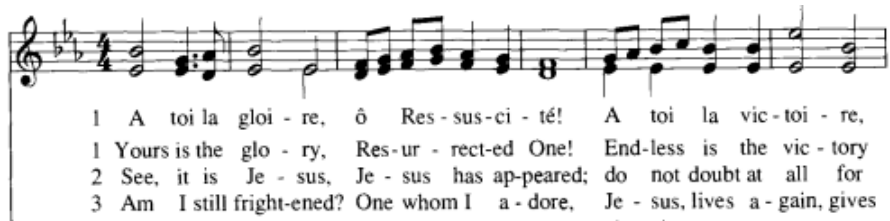
Liturgist: Rejoice! The Lord is with us!

People: We rejoice in the peace and blessing he brings.

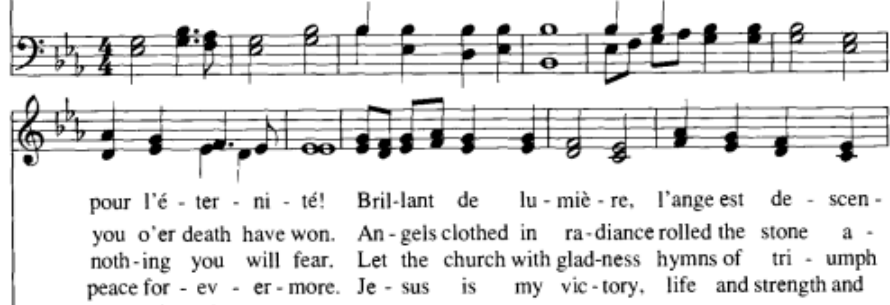
SONG OF GATHERING

Yours is the Glory, Resurrected One"

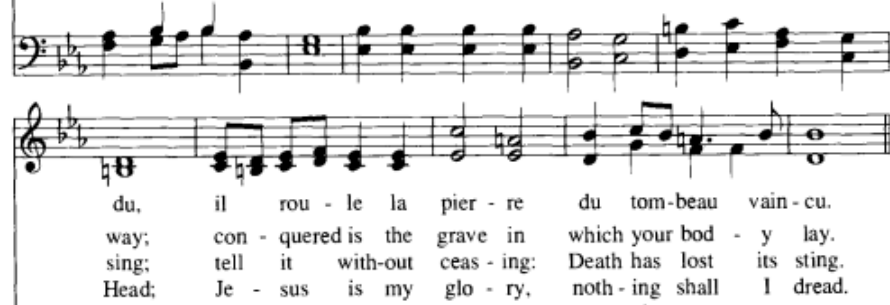
NCH#253



1 A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té! A toi la vic - toi - re,
1 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One! End - less is the vic - tory
2 See, it is Je - sus, Je - sus has ap - peared; do not doubt at all for
3 Am I still fright - ened? One whom I a - dore, Je - sus, lives a - gain, gives



pour l'é - ter - ni - té! Bril - lant de lu - miè - re, l'ange est de - scen -
you o'er death have won. An - gels clothed in ra - diancance rolled the stone a -
noth - ing you will fear. Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph
peace for - ev - er - more. Je - sus is my vic - tory, life and strength and



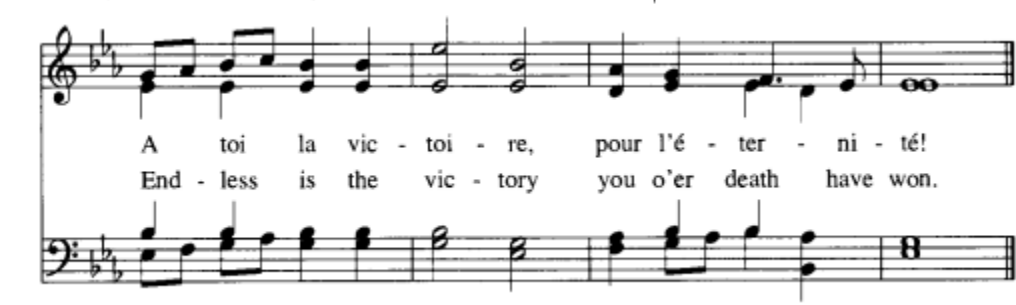
du, il rou - le la pier - re du tom - beau vain - cu.
way; con - quered is the grave in which your bod - y lay.
sing; tell it with - out ceas - ing: Death has lost its sting.
Head; Je - sus is my glo - ry, noth - ing shall I dread.



Refrain



A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té!
Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!



A toi la vic - toi - re, pour l'é - ter - ni - té!
End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.

The Liturgist invites the congregation to be seated.

First Reading

Read by Liturgist

Acts: 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to their resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Choir Anthem

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

GOSPEL READING:

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.

But Thomas (who was called the Twin", one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon: "From each according to their ability"

Rev. Nathan Dannison

The Liturgist invites the congregation to rise in body or spirit and sing the next hymn

SONG OF RESPONSE

“These Things Did Thomas Count”

NCH#254

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
2 The vi - sion of his skep - tic mind was keen e -
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the heft of
nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex - pect - ed
live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like
ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached

stone, the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
act too large for his small world of fact.
Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the song. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines. The music is in a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pastor*

Pastor: ... We pray to you, our mother, using the words he gave us,
Saying together,

People: **Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
and forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING *Pastor*

Ushers will come forward to receive the offering.

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOR

OFFERTORY

Easter Doxology

Praise Je - sus Christ, who rose from death! Praise to the Source of life and
 breath! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to the Spir - it, ho - ly
 dove, Giv - er of life, of peace, of love. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is
 ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

*CHARGE

Liturgist

Liturgist:

Go out into the world
 and trust in the faithfulness of God.
 Speak truth. Embody compassion.
 Live simply. Love recklessly.
 Transform the world through the power of hope.

People:

*We go in peace to love and serve God
 in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*SONG OF PARTING


“We Live By Faith and Not By Sight”

NCH#256

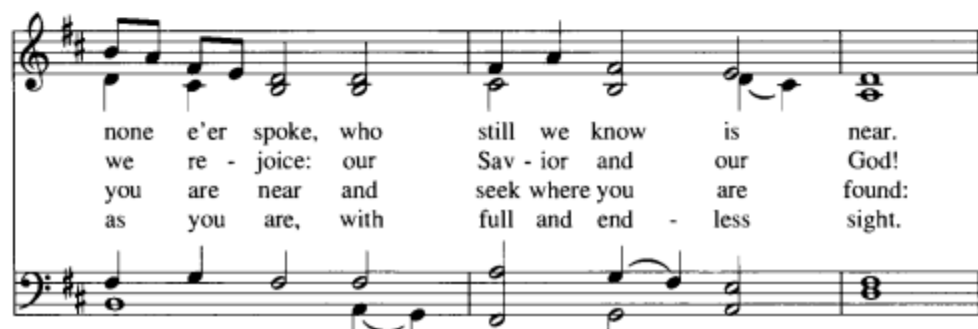
Unison



1 We live by faith and not by sight;
2 We may not touch Christ's hands and side,
3 Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;
4 That, when our life of faith is done,



no gra-cious words we hear From Christ who spoke as
nor fol-low where Christ trod; But in con-fess-ing
and may our faith a-bound To call on you when
in realms of clear-er light We may be-hold you



none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.
we re-joice: our Sav-ior and our God!
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end-less sight.

*BENEDICTION *Pastor*

POSTLUDE:

“Fanfare”

Richard Proulx

**Indicates that you are invited to rise and body and spirit.*