

WORSHIP ORDER - St. John's UCC
Seventh Sixth Sunday in Easter
Mother's Day
May 12, 2024

PRELUDE

"As the Dew From Heaven Distilling"

J.J. Daynes/A. Schreiner

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

"In the Bulb There is a Flower" vs. 1

Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap-ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev-ery si - lence, seek-ing word and mel-o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co-coons, a hid-den prom-ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn for ev-ery dark-ness, bring-ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys-ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some-thing God a-lone can see.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER for Mother's Day

One: Lord, we remember the mothers who have gone before us.

Many: For their love, sacrifice, struggle and joy, we thank you.

One: Lord, we remember the mothers of Scripture
who are part of our story
as we are a part of your story.

**Many: For their courage, faith, love and fierceness,
we thank you.**

One: Lord, we remember those who have not given birth to us,
but are mothers to us.

**Many: For their gift of themselves that they have given,
we thank you.**

One: For the women who struggle with fertility,
for those women whom society labels as less in their childlessness,
for those women who have lost children;

**Many: for their tears, for their strength,
for their wisdom, for their lives,
we thank you.**

One: Let us pray....
Good and Gentle God -
Creator God with a Mother's heart,
we pray in gratitude for our mothers
and for all those who have joined with you
in the wonder of bringing forth new life.
You who became human through a woman,
grant to all mothers:
the courage they need to face the uncertainty of life.
Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return,
not perfectly, but humanly.
Give them the faithful support of a beloved community
as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.
Give them joy and delight in their children
to sustain them through the challenges of life.
Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help
when they need it most. Amen.

SONG OF GATHERING

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!

NCH#257

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Gra - cious Je - sus! Yours the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, you on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ e - ter - nal, noth - ing

scep - ter, yours the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! Yours the
 left in sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! You are
 earth our food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the
 can dis - rupt your reign; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of

tri - umph, yours the vic - to - ry a - lone!
 near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
 sin - ful flee to you from day to day.
 Mar - y, heaven and earth are your do - main.

Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived you
 In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
 Hu - man life you ful - ly en - tered,

The Liturgist invites the congregation to be seated.

First Reading

Read by Liturgist

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Choir Anthem

"Down by the Riverside"

Robert Norman

INVITATION TO COMMUNION - Rev. Nathan Dannison

Invitation to Confession - Rev. Dannison

SILENCE IS OBSERVED

ALL: Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

One: In the name of Jesus Christ who brings peace and hope, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice! You are loved! AMEN.

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

Blessing of the Elements

Pastor: God be with you

. Many: And also with you

. One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God!

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High!

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Let us pray....

Words of Institution

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

This Sunday, Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and receive both as you return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, you will be served at your seat. There are gluten free crackers available on each plate.

COMMUNION HYMN

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

Refrain



You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart with gift of fin-est wheat;

Refrain



Fine



come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

Fine



- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice,
- 2 With joy-ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat-i-tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys-tery of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor-tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self-less let us be,



to Refrain



so when you call your fam-ily, Lord, we fol-low and re-joice.
that you should count us wor-thy, Lord, to share this heav-en-ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de-clare our one-ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can-not con-tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth-er in your name in truth and char-i-ty.

to Refrain



CHILDREN'S BLESSING - Rev. Nathan Dannison

Children's Choir

"You Made Every Part of Me"

"Many are the Lightbeams"

Gospel Lesson

John 17:6-19

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

Sermon: "Our Mother God, the Sacred Heart"

Rev. Nathan Dannison

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

*SONG OF RESPONSE

"You are the Way"

NCH#40

1 You are the way; through you a-lone can we the true God find;
 2 You are the truth; your word a-lone true wis-dom can im-part;
 3 You are the life; the o-pen tomb pro-claims God's love a-new;
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

In you, O Christ, is now re-vealed God's heart and will and mind.
 You on-ly can in-form the mind and pur-i-fy the heart.
 And God will ne'er for-sake the one who trusts, O Christ, in you.
 That truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e-ter-nal flow.

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

The image shows a musical score for the Easter Doxology, consisting of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "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

“O Christ Jesus, Sent From Heaven”

NCH#47

1 O Christ Je - sus, sent from heav-en, Love E - ter - nal,
2 O Christ Je - sus, our sal - va - tion, Shep-herd kind, life's
3 O Christ Je - sus, Fa - ther - Moth-er, Spir - it, Tri - une
4 O Christ Je - sus, preached down a - ges, in the womb of

cru - ci - fied, wel - come Sav - ior, mis - sion bear - ing,
Bread and Wine, Word Made Flesh, God's Bless - ed Ser - vant,
Source of all, claim our wound-ed, halt - ing wit - ness;
God be - gun, pray re - store your bro - ken Bod - y,

dwel a - mong us, now re - side. Al - le - lu - ia!
wash - ing feet shows your de - sign. Al - le - lu - ia!
we sur - ren - der to your thrall. Al - le - lu - ia!
born when Cal - vary's work was done. Al - le - lu - ia!

Way of An - guish, sow your peace, with us a - bide.
Liv - ing Wa - ter, slake our hearts with grace di - vine.
Truth In - car - nate, stir us with your ser - vant call.
Life for Oth - ers, hear our plea: "May all be one!"

*BENEDICTION *Pastor*

POSTLUDE:

“Rondeau”

Joseph Mouret

