

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

Lighting the Christ Candle

On this second Sunday of the Easter season,
we shout and sing the glad news:

Jesus Christ is risen indeed!

We light the Christ Candle because he is here among us.

Hallelujah!

Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

God has raised Jesus from the dead.

God welcomes us into a new world filled with grace.

God gives new life and hope.

Let us sing our alleluias with joy.

Opening Hymn: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

(Voices United 575)

Words: African-American Spiritual

Music: African-American Spiritual, arr. Wendell Whalum

Arrangement © 1987 Estate of Wendell Whalum

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1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Opening Prayer

Eternal God, who was and is and is to come, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end of all things.

Come to us now in visions and dreams, that our eyes may see more than they see, and our hearts may love more than they love.

Make yourself known to us in this time of worship, for in you, we live and move and have our being.

Bring your kingdom here on earth, that all may know your glory and find the courage to face each day.

We ask this in the name of the One who conquered the grave to bring us eternal life. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (Echo)

Scripture Readings

Christian Scripture (New Testament) Acts 5:27-32; Revelation 1:4-8

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

Reflection: The Risen Existence

Hymn of the Day: I Come with Joy (Voices United 477, vs. 1, 4 & 5)

Words: Brian Wren 1968, rev. 1993

Music: American folk tune from William Walker's Southern Harmony 1835

arr. Austin C. Lovelace 1977

Words © 1971, and arrangement © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

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- 1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.
- 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.
- 5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

Invitation to Offering

Let us be generous in our giving, that others may see in us the transforming power of God.

Let us be lavish in our gifts, that others may draw life from the bounty of God's blessings.

Offering Prayer

**Alpha and Omega, beginning and end,
you are the source of every blessing.**

**We behold your glory in the skies
and touch your mystery all around us.**

**In the beauty of our awakening,
our doubts give way to a deep and abiding joy.**

**In gratitude for your many mercies,
we offer you these gifts and offerings,
that they may be signs of our commitment
to live as your faithful disciples. Amen.**

Prayers for Others & Ourselves

Closing Hymn: Go Now in Peace (Voices United 964)

Words and Music: Natalie Sleeth, 1976

Words and Music © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

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Go now in peace,
go now in peace.
May the love of God
surround you
everywhere,
everywhere
you may go.

Benediction

Believe where you have not seen.

Our hearts will lead the way.

Trust where you have reason to doubt.

Our souls will lead us home.

Hope where you have cause to despair.

Our lives will know joy and peace.

Let us go with God's blessing.

Postlude

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker

Music Leader – James Yi

Vocalists – Margaret Bates, Blyth Hughes,
Alan Priestley and Erich Schulz

Greeters – David and Margaret Chambers

Welcoming – Edward Hickcox

Scripture Reading – Erich Schulz

Spirit Kids Program – Nancy Walker

Technical Support – Sascha Enns, Louise Johnston and Jayda Perry

Flowers for the service are offered by Nancy Walker.