

**Columbia
United Church
Of Christ**

April 19, 2020

10:30 Worship

"Faithful Thomas"

*"... protect me, O God; for in your I take refuge...
I have no good apart from you..."
-Psalm 16:1-2*

Gathering Music

Amy Crousore

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Amy Crousore

Beethoven/Carter

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Call to Worship

(adapted from Psalm 16)

Audrey Lasley

In days of trouble, we cry out to God:
Protect us, O God; in you we take refuge!

**We take refuge in God and God's presence;
All good blessings come to us from God!**

God gives us counsel and guidance;
God instructs us and keeps our hearts centered.

**We keep God's wisdom as our guide.
With God as our guide, we shall not be moved.**

Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice!
We are able to rest secure in God's presence.

**God's Wisdom is the path of life;
In God's presence there is fullness of joy!
Come, let us worship God!**

Opening Hymn

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#233

Opening Prayer

Audrey Lasley

God of Resurrection; we cry out to you as questioning people in a fractured world. We live in a world of Good Fridays; where the innocent suffer from illness, where the darkness of global pandemic smothers the light, where hopes and dreams dissolve, where injustices seem to triumph. We long to discover your presence. We long to feel the rhythm of your power. We stumble toward the tombs in our lives and long to find them empty.

Bring your Easter miracle into our hearts and into our lives this morning. Open our eyes and our hearts like you opened the eyes and the hearts of the disciples that Easter evening. In the name of Christ, whose life and love could not be stamped out, whose Resurrection hope is our hope as well, which plants love and laughter in our lives and lures them to sprout and bloom and blossom like spring flowers in the morning sun, we say, Alleluia! Christ has Risen! Christ has Risen, indeed. Amen.

Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

Just as Thomas' expression of faith led to God's greater glory, we pray that our expressions of faith do the same; but Jesus' ministry of grace and reconciliation reminds us that God forgives us, even when we fail in that duty. As we celebrate the risen Christ, we celebrate God's promises of reconciliation fulfilled. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer Response

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace!**

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

Response

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

**I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)
No turning back, no turning back**

Living our Mission

"Loaves and Fishes"

Audrey Lasley

Anthem

Peter Jaberg & Ally Jaberg with Amy Crousore, Accompanist
"Walk by Faith"

Jeremy Camp

Gospel Lesson:

John 20:19-31

Audrey Lasley

Jesus appears to his friends, the disciples; but Thomas was not present. His faith required him to see Jesus firsthand. Once he sees Jesus, he realizes the truth of the Resurrection and that all Jesus' promises have been fulfilled; then he begins testifying to his faith.

Meditation Hymn

"The Day of Resurrection"

NCH #245

Sermon:

"Faithful Thomas"

Pastor Rick

Meditation Hymn

"I Come to the Garden Alone"

NCH #237

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

"Grant Us Peace"

**Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Presenting our Gifts

“Theme and Variations”

Amy Crousore
WA Mozart

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041 and follow the prompts
You can also give online by visiting our website: www.columbiaucc.com*

Response

“We Praise You, O God”

#420



**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your Holy name, glad praises we sing!**

Prayer of Dedication

Audrey Lasley

**God of love; these gifts we give today are just one of the ways we show our discipleship;
by giving back to you from our blessings. As we give, we pray that these gifts are used to
serve your children; that all may come to understand the love and acceptance you offer.
May these gifts be blessings in the lives of your children, we pray; Amen.**

Benediction

Pastor Rick

Response:

“Let There be Peace on Earth”

**Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!**

Postlude

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Amy Crousore
Edward Broughton

CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God’s boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God’s children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

The unknown editor of Lyra Davidica wanted music with more movement and spirit than found in the grave, slow-paced psalm tunes, with one note to a syllable. Easter Hymn was among the first of a new popular style.

Tune: EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with alleluias
 Arr. from Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

5 How blessed are they who have not seen
and yet whose faith has con-stant been;
for they e-ter-nal life shall win,
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

6 On this most ho-ly day of days,
our hearts and voic-es, Christ, we raise
to you in ju--bi-lee and praise.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! (*Antiphon*)

The Day of Resurrection

245

John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad-ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn. John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836

I Come to the Garden Alone

(In the Garden)

John 20:14-18

C. Austin Miles, 1912

1 I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the
 2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
 3 I'd stay in the gar - den with him, though the night a - round me be

ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the
 sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that he gave to me with -
 fall - ing; But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

Refrain

Son of God dis - clos - es.
 in my heart is ring - ing. And he walks with me, and he
 voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the

joy we share as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.

C. Austin Miles wrote this hymn and its music to tell the story of Mary Magdalene's encounter with Jesus at the tomb, when she recognizes him and calls him "Rabboni" ("Teacher").

Tune: GARDEN 8.9.5.5.7. with refrain
 C. Austin Miles, 1912

We Praise You, O God

420

Julia C. Cory, 1902; alt.

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our moth - ers and fa - thers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through life's storm and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our song of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you nev - er will for - sake us,
 Our sins now con - fess - ing, we pray for your bless - ing;

we bless your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O God, in life's strug - gles we win.
 to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Julia Bulkley Cady Cory wrote this hymn for Thanksgiving in 1902 at the invitation of the organist of New York's Brick Presbyterian Church who felt that the familiar words to Kremser contained too much militaristic imagery.

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.11.
 Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenkclanck*, 1626