



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

*with UCC Westerly
during Eastertide
LAITY SUNDAY!!!*

April 25, 2021 @ 9:45am

In-person &

Broadcast live from our sanctuary

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Gathering Music A selection by Doug Brummund. [WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2020 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

PASTOR'S WELCOME

[Rev. Ruth in on vacation this weekend. She will be with us again next Sunday.]

PRELUDE – "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus,"

[MUSIC: by Gregg Sewell, based on the hymn tune Hyfrydol, c1999 Lorenz Publishing Company
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DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP –

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This morning we gather to recognize and celebrate that in Christ's Resurrection, we too are resurrected. We are renewed and transformed, open and prepared for new possibilities. In your resurrection we are like butterflies freed from our cocoons, like Lazarus freed from his graveclothes – free to be whoever it is you need us to be in this moment. Free to be more than we ever dreamed we could be as we acknowledge with joy that with you, all things are possible.

OPENING SONG – *This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

[MUSIC: Carlton R. Young & WORDS: Brian Wren. Words ©1983 & 87, Music ©1987 Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161, *Worship & Rejoice #355*]

- 1. This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.*
- 2. For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit now as then,
Can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.*

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds. ©1990, The Pilgrim Press. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161, p. 83]

Revolutionary God, in raising Jesus Christ you used great energy, creating a new people who share a common life, a common witness, a commitment to prayer and responding to the needs of others. We confess we are sometimes still afraid to risk ourselves and our things in creating your new world. Forgive us our hesitation and fill us with new energy to build community, peace and justice on earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE –

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:1-4 & 25:44-45

Message – *Paying It Forward*

Lynn Murray

Meditation Music – "Spirit of the Living God,"

[MUSIC: by Daniel Iverson, c1935, 1963 Birdwing Music Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161]

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer in whatever words are most comfortable for you.

Musical response

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Anthem – "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus,"

Tone Chimes Choir

music Indian folk tune, [©Public Domain]

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

Doxology: [©Public Domain]

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.”

CLOSING SONG “Pass It On ”

[WORDS & MUSIC: Kurt Kaiser © 1969 Bud John Songs (Admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing), Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161 *Worship & Rejoice #557*]

1. *It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon
All around can warm up in its glowing;
that’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it;
You spread God’s love to everyone, you want to pass it on.*

2. *What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
And birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it;
You want to sing, it’s fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION—

[Anonymous]

May God grant us all minds to know God, hearts to love God, hands to do God’s work and voices to sing God’s praises. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE –"The Joyful Trumpet,"

[MUSIC: by Lani Smith, c2006 Lorenz Publishing Company Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161]

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## **Matthew 6:1-4**

Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

## **Matthew 25:44-45**

Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”

*To request a copy of today's sermon be sent to you, kindly contact Carol in the office @ 860-599-1226 or [uccwesterly@gmail.com](mailto:uccwesterly@gmail.com).*

