



3rd Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

11:00 AM

Introit *Until Day Is Done* R.E.M.

*The battle's been lost, the war is not won, an addled republic, a bitter refund.
The business first flat earthers licking their wounds. The verdict is dire, the country's in ruins.
Providence blinked, facing the sun, where are we left to carry on until the day is done.*

*As we've written our stories to entertain these notions of glory and bull market gain
The teleprompt flutters, the power surge brings an easy speed message falls into routine
Providence blinked, facing the sun, where are we left to carry on until the day is done.*

*A voice whispers "Son, the blessed vision comes." What have I done; what have I done?
So, hold tight your babies and your guns; forgive us our trespasses, father and son.
Providence blinked, facing the sun, where are we left to carry on until the day is done.*

Call to Worship *1 John 1 Adapted*

One: We declare what was from the beginning,
All: *what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,*
One: what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—
All: *this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it;*
One: this eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—
All: *we declare these things so that our joy may be complete.*
One: This is the message we have heard from him and now proclaim,
All: *that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.*
One: If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness,
we lie and do not do what is true.
All: *But if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.*
One: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
All: *If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
One: And when we do sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
All: *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,*

and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

One: So, it will be, and is now in our greeting one another, "The peace of God be with you."

All: *And also with you.*

Prayer of Invocation

Incarnate and Resurrected Lord, we gather in the hope seeing you and recognizing you that we might follow you from life to life; that until the day is done, all our days passed, we might walk with you in eschatological anticipation, your glorious final day, whose light never sets, enlightening all our living, filling us with joy complete.

So, visit our worship, we pray, with your incarnate presence. Grant that, as on the first resurrection day, you might arrive among us simply in our speaking of you. Grant that word of you, in our hearts, on our lips, let loose in our witness, might indeed continue to speak and to work, making manifest: "Love. Grace. Salvation. Eternal life," these durable goods that are more insistent than fleeting, ephemera though they might seem.

We know we have often fallen short in this regard, and in many others as well. We confess that we have sinned against you—in thought, word, and deed. We neglect ourselves and others; we plunder your creation for our own comfort and convenience; we are short-sighted and long in our grasp. We are violent, which shocks us and enervates us. We are exhausted by our own folly.

For this and much else, we pray your forgiveness, your renewal, and your persistence about us. Save us, for we cannot save ourselves. Free us to live in peace and the sufficiency of your provision. Free us to live the Resurrected Life starting now, this morning, this moment. In Jesus' name, amen.

Reading Luke 24:36-48

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 19:14

One: May the words of my mouth

All: *and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.*

Sermon *Durable Good*

Hymn *Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*

Pastoral Prayer

Joys and Concerns

One: God be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: *We lift them to God.*

One: Let us pray.

Spoken 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Offering Please don't forget to make your offering! (Church on the Hill: 55 Main Street, Lenox, 01240; Monterey Church: PO Box 182, Monterey 01240, or online)

Announcements

- Monday Book Group, two more weeks on *Four Gospels, One Jesus?* 5:30 PM on Zoom.
- Wednesday Bible Study, 11 AM on Zoom.

Closing Song Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.*

Benediction

Postlude

About the Monterey United Church of Christ

First gathered in 1750, the Monterey United Church of Christ, Congregational, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, welcomes all who seek to know God and invites everyone to join in our common life and mission through participation in this congregation. As Jesus Christ did before us, we affirm that each individual is a child of God and recognize that we are called to be like one reconciled body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender identity and gender expression, sexual identity, and physical or mental ability, to journey together toward the promised realm of God. On the threshold of Christ's open door, we rely upon the healing, unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide as we all move forward with the work of this church in the world.



MONTEREY CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

It's Not What You Think

Contact Information: 413-329-3026, liz@goodman.md **Web Address:** Montereychurch.org
Podcast address: Rev. Liz Goodman, Lenox & Monterey **Pastor:** Rev. Liz Goodman

About the Church on the Hill, Lenox

First gathered in 1769, the Church on the Hill, UCC, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, welcomes all who seek to know God and invites everyone to join in our common life and mission through participation in this congregation. As Jesus Christ did before us, we affirm that each individual is a child of God and recognize that we are called to be like one reconciled body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender identity and gender expression, sexual identity, and physical or mental ability, to journey together toward the promised realm of God. On the threshold of Christ's open door, the Holy Spirit leads us into a beloved world where we seek **to serve as Christ's disciples for the sake of God's good news which is for all.**



COME AS YOU ARE. RECEIVE AS YOU NEED. SERVE AS YOU CAN.

Office Information: 55 Main Street; 637-1001; Monday-Thursday, 9 AM-12 PM (call first!)

Web Address: lenoxucc.org **Podcast address:** Rev. Liz Goodman, Lenox & Monterey

Pastor: Rev. Liz Goodman (413-329-3026; liz@goodman.md)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

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Christopher Wordsworth, 1872; alt.

Matt. 28:5-8; Rom. 5:21; 6:4-11; 1 Cor. 15:20-22

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise;
 2 Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born;
 3 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en; shed up - on us heav - en - ly grace,
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to the God of joy;

Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
 Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal on this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
 Rain and dew, and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of your face;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who came death's bonds to de - stroy;

Je - sus on the cross as Sav - ior for the world's sal - va - tion bled;
 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by God's lib - er - at - ing deed;
 That we, with our hearts in heav - en, here on earth may fruit - ful be,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;

But the cru - ci - fied Re - deem - er now is ris - en from the dead!
 Now the Christ with us a - bid - ing to e - ter - nal life shall lead.
 And by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be yours e - ter - nal - ly.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

Christopher Wordsworth, gifted nephew of poet William
 Wordsworth, served the Church of England successively as canon
 at Westminster, parish priest in Berkshire, and, finally, bishop of

Tune: WEISSE FLAGGEN 8.7.8.7.D.
 Tochter Zion, Cologne, 1741
 Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL