

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday, April 19, 2020

9:30 a.m.

**Second Sunday of Easter
Livestreaming**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Prelude on *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

Richard Wienhorst

***OPENING HYMN:** "Now The Green Blade Rises"

V186

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

PEOPLE: **Break forth into joy! Sing together!**
 God comforts those whose hearts are broken in sorrow.

Leader: We who once suffered in death, we who once cried in despair –

PEOPLE: **Now we know victory over death! Now we know joy over despair!**

ALL: **For God has raised Christ from the grave!**
 The tomb is empty and death has been defeated for all the earth!**

***LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

Peace is not the product of terror or fear.

Peace is not the silence of cemeteries.

Peace is not the silence of violent repression.

Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all. Peace is dynamism.

Peace is generosity.

It is right and duty.^{##} Amen.

Oscar A. Romero, trans. James Brockman

V683

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

God of Resurrection, we cry out to you as empty people in a fractured world. We live in a world of Good Fridays: where the innocent suffer and die, where midday shadows smother the light, where hopes and dreams dissolve, where evil seems to triumph.

God of Resurrection, 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 Easter to our hearts, to our eyes and ears, to our lives, this morning.

In the name of Christ, whose life and love could not be stamped out, whose resurrection hope is the hope 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, Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Scott Morrow

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

p. 1262

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 20:19-31

p. 1259

ANTHEM: *Look at The World*

Words and Music by John Rutter (b.1950)

This anthem is a Chancel Choir favorite, and was recorded live at our 300th anniversary concert in December of 2016.

Look at the world: Everything all around us
Look at the world: and marvel everyday
Look at the world: So many joys and wonders
So many miracles along our way
Praise to thee O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee.

Look at the earth: Bringing forth fruit and flower
Look at the sky: The sunshine and the rain
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains
Valley and flowing river field and plain
Praise to thee O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee.

Think of the spring, Think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winters cold
Everything grows, everything has a season
Til' it is gathered to the fathers fold
Praise to thee O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee.

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the lord in token of his love
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty
His is the earth and his the heavens above
Praise to thee, O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share, and every blessing
All things come of thee
All things come of thee.

SERMON: "Coming to Believe"

Scott G. Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY:

Doxology

Tune: Lasst uns erfueren

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!&&

Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE

***CLOSING HYMN:** "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

V155

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Prelude on *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing*

Healey Willan

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In Our Prayers This Week are: Heidi Welch, Mary Cestaro, Tim Peiffer, David Bellonio, Marlene Bellonio, Stefan McKosky, Rose Monaco, Francis Dutko, Sabrina Selmer, Kathie Gant, and Linda Shannon.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Anthony Solecki 04/03, Deborah McKosky 04/05, Gloria Santamauro 04/07, Thomas Ryan 04/09, Donald Adams II 04/15, Betsey Gumbart 04/17, Carla Hill 04/17, Lauren Campos 04/22, Larry Ballantyne 04/22, Paula Diehl 04/26.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Ann & Herbert Schneider 04/12, Drew & Heather Mastracchio 04/15, Martin & Patience Benassi 04/16, Merrilee & George Gladkosky 04/19, Bryant & Sara Munson 04/23, Anthony & Cheryl Solecki 04/24.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	April 19	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP – Live Stream
Monday	April 20		
Tuesday	April 21	6:00 p.m.	BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	April 22		WINDOW DEADLINE
		10:00 a.m.	STAFF MEETING (Zoom)
Thursday	April 23		
Friday	April 24		
Saturday	April 25		
Sunday	April 26	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP – Live Stream

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD PANTRY IS LOW!!!

We are running low on the following items: Baked Beans (16 oz), Mayonnaise, Coffee, Canned Fruit, and Canned Chickpeas. We are also collecting monetary donations and volunteers are going shopping. Please bring your donations to the church between 8:00 and 2:30 Monday – Friday. You can also give online through our website. Thank you for your support.

Church Office Staff:

All the Members, Ministers to the World
The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Senior Pastor
Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children
Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music
Gary Snowbeck, Organist
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager
Todd Swarney, Sexton
Telephone: 203-239-5691
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MISSION

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

VISION

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

VALUES

We:

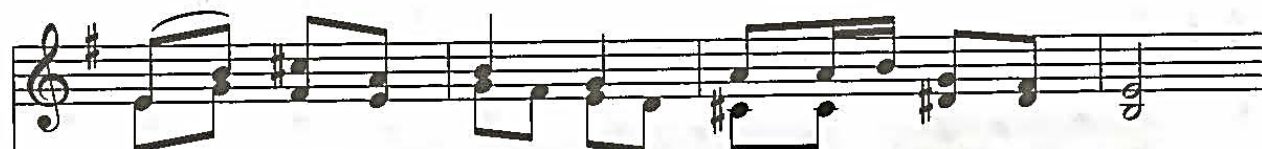
- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.

Now the Green Blade Rises

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1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by hat - red slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain,
think - ing that he would ne - ver wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain, like wheat a - ris - ing green.



... “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Descant

4 Sing we to our God a - bove, hal - le - lu - jahl

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, hal - le - lu - jahl

Praise e - ter - nal as God's love, hal - le - lu - jahl

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King,
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured,
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love, hal - le - lu - jahl

Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host, hal - le - lu - jahl

who did once, up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave,
 now a - bove the sky he's King,
 praise our God, ye heaven - ly host, hal - le - lu - jahl

Praise the Son and Ho - ly Ghost. Hal - le - lu - jahl

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save.
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 praise the Son and Ho - ly Ghost. Hal - le - lu - jahl