

But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.

Luke 15:32



Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

March 30, 2025

The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – March 30, 2025

How can we pray for you? Let us know in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!

*We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in ***BOLD*** with us from your homes!*

10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts

10:30 – Live Prelude Starts *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place* arr. by Hamilton

Welcome

Call to Worship –

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found.

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

Let us rejoice in the love God has for us in Jesus Christ our Savior!

Opening Hymn #509 “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

Call to Confession –

Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called. In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love. Together let us share in the Prayer of Confession.

Prayer of Confession – *based on Psalm 32*

O God, when we keep silent about our sin, we waste away with regret and guilt; we feel your hand upon us, and our strength dries up. Therefore, we acknowledge our sin to you and hold nothing back. O God, we trust in you to preserve us. Forgive us and reclaim us, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon —

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen!

Song of Assurance #581 “Gloria Patri”

Passing the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Children’s Message – *Holly Bouthot*

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Let us Pray: O God, teach us the way that we should go; counsel us in the ways of life. We wait upon your teaching and counsel, for we are lost without it. **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Hebrew Bible Reading — 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 p.1799

16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s

behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Choir Anthem #643 “Now Thank We All Our God”

Scripture Reading: Gospel Reading — Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

p.1623

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3 Then Jesus told them this parable:

11 Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

13 “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ 20 So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

Sermon

No Strings Attached

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Response #73 “When God Delivered Israel”

Prayers of the People and 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

One Great Hour of Sharing Moment – *Holly Kachmar*

Call to Offering

Our discipleship is revealed in our love for one another, and our love is made known in the opening of our hands to share God’s good gifts. We are witnesses to God’s care for all creation through our offerings. Let us give generously, as God has given to us.

Offertory *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed* by Wilson

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication —

Let us pray. Loving God, we place our faith in you, we place our confidence in the Spirit's power, and we place our hope in the ongoing work of Christ's church. Use our gifts to expand your peace, grace & justice throughout the world. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #231 “Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April Newsletter Available: Hard copies of our newsletter is in the narthex.

Grace 2025 Updated Directory: Hard copies of our Grace directory are available in the narthex.

Scout Pie Sale: Troop 15, the troop that Grace supports, is selling pies, crisps, and cobblers to fund their upcoming activities. A list of options is available in the narthex. For questions or to place an order, please contact Aaron Bowers or Betsy Kachmar. The deadline to order and pay for your treats is March 23.

Bread for the World: Film Screening & Advocacy: Bread for the World Fort Wayne and Community Harvest Food Pantry are partnering with In As Much Ministry to present the film Food Insecure on March 31, 6:30 PM, at Broadway Christian Church (corner of Broadway and Wayne, Fort Wayne). Everyone is invited.

After the service today, we will be filling out cards/letters to our representatives reminding them to not forget those in need during fellowship time.

Fellowship Hall & Basement Update: The fellowship hall downstairs is complete! While some restoration work continues in other areas, take a moment to check out the finished space and the hard work that has gone into it.

Easter Candy Donations: We are looking for candy donations for our Easter Egg Hunt at Grace event (April 16). Candy donations can be brought to the narthex. There is a bin for set up for them. We are also in need of volunteers. Sign up in the narthex.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Kenneth & Peggy Mahoney

April 5, 1970

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.

Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on “Join” and enter this information:

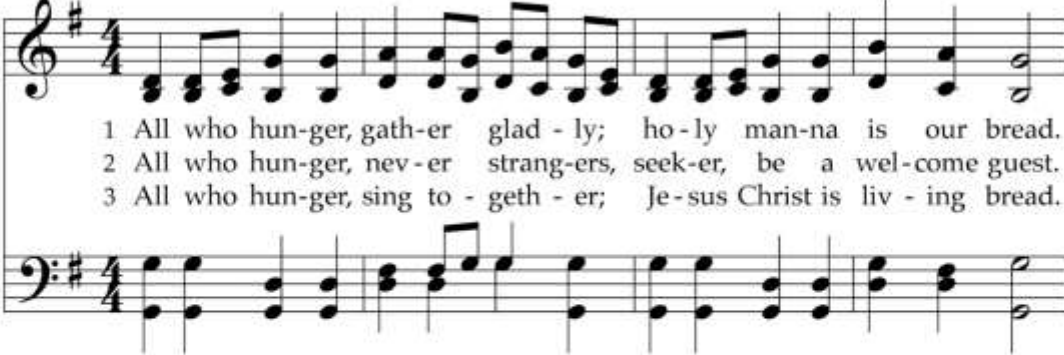
Meeting ID: 9712063468 ***Password:*** 030414

Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

Phone Number: (301) 715-8592 ***Meeting ID:*** 9712063468 ***Password:*** 030414

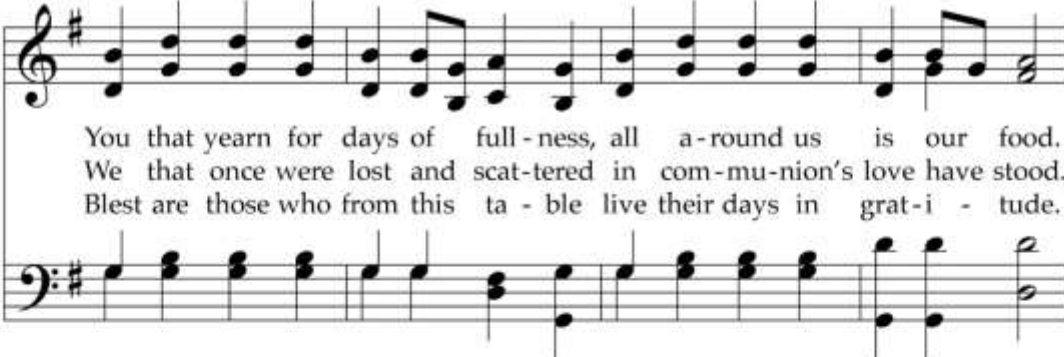
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1990
 MUSIC: William Moore's *Columbian Harmony*, 1825
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

HOLY MANNA
 8.7.8.7.D
 (alternate harmonization, 396)

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

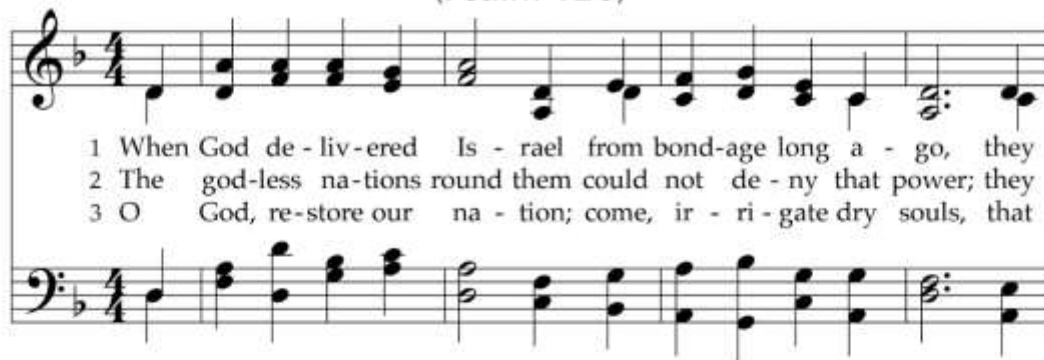
8

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

73 When God Delivered Israel

(Psalm 126)



1 When God de-liv-ered Is-rael from bond-age long a-go, they
2 The god-less na-tions round them could not de-ny that power; they
3 O God, re-store our na-tion; come, ir-ri-gate dry souls, that



thought that they were dream-ing, but soon they turned to laugh-ing
cried, "O see this mar-vel!" "God's work," re-plied the peo-ple,
those who sow in sad-ness may reap their sheaves with glad-ness



and sang the song of joy, and sang the song of joy.
and so they sang for joy, and so they sang for joy.
and sing the song of joy, and sing the song of joy.

This condensed 20th-century paraphrase of Psalm 126 sketches Israel's central identifying narrative, the deliverance from bondage in Egypt, and uses it as a ground of hope for all who are now in distress. The modal tune created for these words gives them weight and urgency.

TEXT: Michael A. Seward, 1973, alt.

MUSIC: Norman L. Warren, 1973

Text and Music © 1973 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

SHEAVES

7.6.7.7.6.6

606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures

here below; praise *him above, ye heavenly host; praise

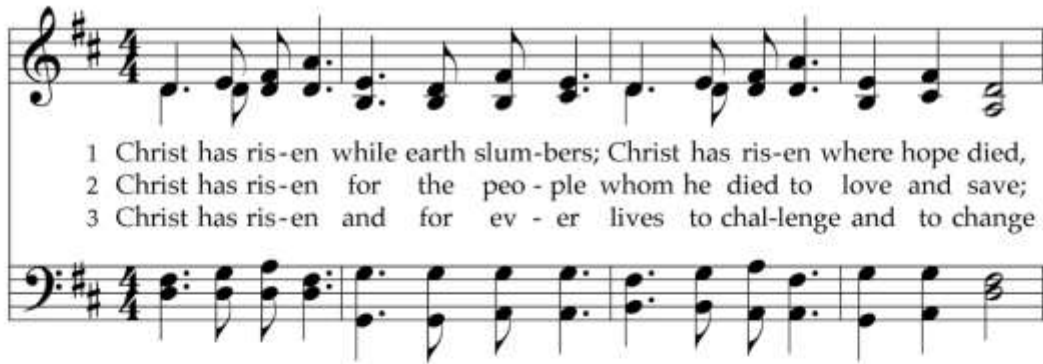
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Or "God"

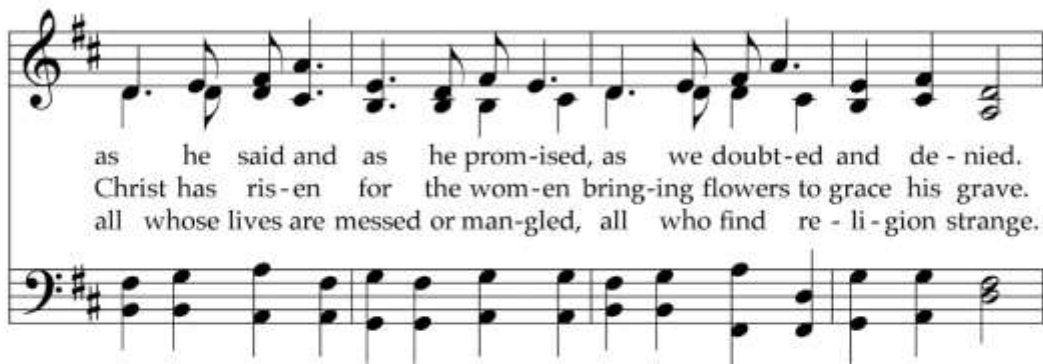
TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

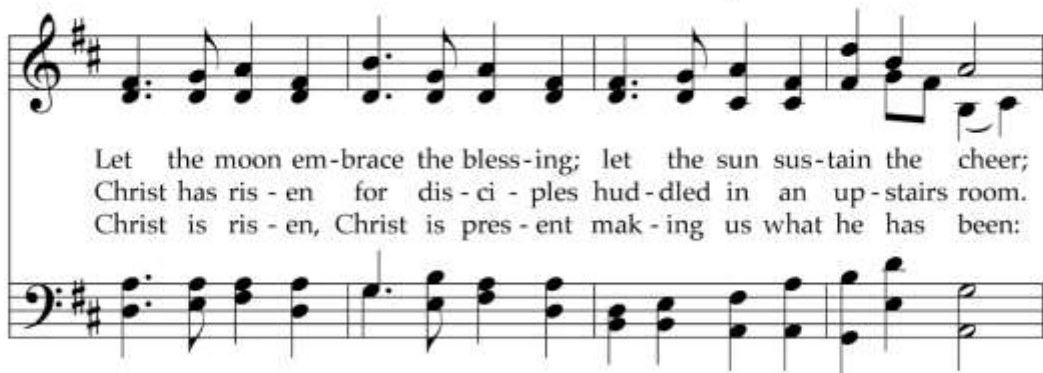
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231



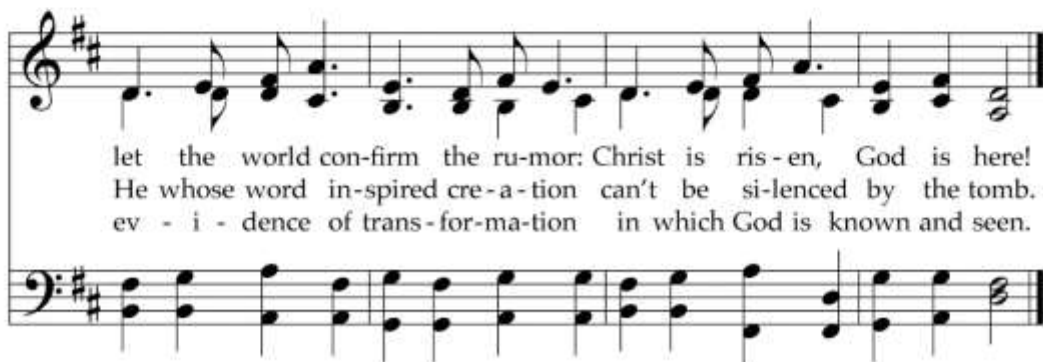
1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
 2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
 3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
 Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
 all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
 Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.
 Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
 He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
 ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1988
 MUSIC: Welsh melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
 Text © 1988 WGRC, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)
 Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

SUO GAN
 8.7.8.7.D