



April 30, 2023 – Livestream  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

*At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

arr. R. Powell

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Easter people, raise your voices and let us sing.

**People: We are children of the resurrection hope. Alleluia!**

Leader: Easter people, raise your voices and let us sing.

**People: We are servants of the risen Lord. Alleluia!**

\*OPENING HYMN #304

*Easter People, Raise Your Voices*

*Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heav'n in earth should ring.*

*Christ has brought us heaven's choicess; heav'nly music, let it ring.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.*

*Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.*

*For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.*

*Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song.*

*When in trouble move the faster to our God who rights the wrong.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.*

OPENING PRAYER

**Spirit of promise, Spirit of unity,**

**we thank you that you are also the Spirit of renewal.**

**Renew in the whole church**

**that passionate desire for the coming of your realm**

**which will unite all Christians in one mission to the world.**

**May we all grow up together into Christ who is our head,**

**the Savior of the world. Amen.**

Sing a new song. Sing to the Lord a new song. For the word of the Lord is right and true and his work is done in faithfulness. The Lord loves righteousness and justice. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Sing to the Lord a new song.

Our soul waits for the Lord, our help and our shield. For the heart rejoices in him because we trust in his holy name. May Your unfailing kindness be upon us, O Lord even as we put our hope in You. Amen.

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*The Church of God*

Leader: Glory to you, God of great love.

Through Jesus Christ and in the Holy Spirit

you have called us to be your assembly of grace, the church.

We praise you for adopting us into your family that welcomes all who seek you.

**People: Glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.**

Leader: We praise you for making us into your temple

for you are delighted to live in us and among us.

**People: Glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.**

Leader: We praise you for uniting us as the body of Christ,

each of us graced with the gifts of your Spirit.

**People: Glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.**

Leader: We praise you for directing us to be your community of servants

tasked with proclaiming your good news through our works of mercy, justice, and peace.

**People: Glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.**

Leader: We praise you for equipping us to be your priestly people

who take on the burdens of humanity and pray for the redemption of creation.

**People: Glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mary McDonald

## FIRST LESSON

1 Peter 2:23-25

<sup>23</sup> Although Jesus was abused, he never tried to get even.

And when he suffered, he made no threats.

Instead, he had faith in God, who judges fairly.

<sup>24</sup> Christ carried the burden of our sins.

He was nailed to the cross,

so we would stop sinning and start living right.

By his cuts and bruises you are healed.

<sup>25</sup> You had wandered away like sheep.

Now you have returned to the one

who is your shepherd and protector.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PRAYER #549

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

***Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.***

***With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.***

***Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;  
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.***

***Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;  
be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.***

***Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;  
as members of his body joined, we are in him made one.***

***Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;  
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sunil Kotian

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE #162

*Alleluia, Alleluia*

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Romance Op. 94, No. 1.*

R. Schumann  
Rebecca Arrensen, flute

\*DOXOLOGY #94

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***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!***

SECOND LESSON

Acts 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Resurrecting Church*

Darren Cushman Wood

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #557

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

***Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.***

***We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;  
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.***

***When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;  
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.***

\*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

arr. J. Biery



### This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*  
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*  
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of youth & Young Adults*  
Mary McDonald, *Liturgist*  
John Hague & Eric Russell, *Audio Visual*  
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*  
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

### Upcoming Events

Indiana's Substance Abuse Crisis & Narcan Training, Today, 6pm, Fellowship Hall

Youth/Confirmation Sunday, May 7.

Gun Violence Prevention Forum, Sunday, May 7, 5-6:30pm

Children's Musical: "Dog Doof", Sunday, May 14, 9:45am

Plant Exchange, Sunday, May 21, 9:30am-1pm

King's Island Youth Trip, Tuesday, June 6

Indy Pride Parade and Festival, Saturday, June 10

North Declaration Reflections, Sundays, June 4-June 18, noon

Youth Mission Trip to Gulf Coast (Hurricane Relief), June 17-23