



April 21, 2024 – Livestream  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

*Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning*

arr. P. L. Wright

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

Leader: The times of refreshing have begun.

**People: Alleluia to the Holy and Righteous One!**

Leader: May the time of universal restoration come.

**People: Alleluia to the Author of Life!**

\*OPENING HYMN #327

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

***Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.***

***Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.***

***Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,***

***and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.***

***Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,***

***and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.***

***His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,***

***who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.***

***Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways***

***from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.***

***His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet***

***fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.***

***Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,***

***those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.***

***All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;***

***thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.***

OPENING PRAYER

**Great Creator,**

**who unleashed the power of new life**

**through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,**

**take our fragile praise  
and put us in harmony with the symphony of your creation,  
to the glory of Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*And Can It Be?*

D. Forrest

And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?  
And can it be that I should gain an interest in my Savior's blood?  
Died he for me who caused his pain? For me who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou my God, shouldst die for me?  
He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace;  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race; 'tis mercy all, immense and free; for,  
O my God, it found out me.  
And can it be? Amazing love how can it be?  
No condemnation now I dread, Jesus and all in him is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown through Christ my own.  
Amazing love, how can it be that thou, my God shouldst die for me.

\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE #791

Psalm 67

*with musical response*

**Response: O people, be glad and sing for joy! Declare God's glory in every land!**

Leader: O God, be gracious to us and bless us  
and make your face to shine upon us,

**People: that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

**People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. [Response]**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

**People: The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.**

Leader: God has blessed us;

**People: let all the ends of the earth fear God! [Response]**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Colossians 1:15-20

<sup>15</sup> [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses,  
and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.*

**Refrain:** *And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own;  
and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

*He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. (Refrain)*

*I'd stay in the garden with him though the night around me be falling,  
but he bids me go; thru the voice of woe his voice to me is calling. (Refrain)*

LITANY OF INTERCESSION FOR CREATION

Amy Sell

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray for all God's creation.

Maker and Protector of all life,

by faith we see the goodness of your creation

and hear your call to be caretakers of the world.

Hear our prayers for the restoration of the skies and seas

that have been damaged by pollution.

**People: Renew our commitment and awaken our praise.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the renewal of the land and vegetation

that have been injured by unbridled greed.

**People: Renew our commitment and awaken our praise.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the repair of the atmosphere

that has been damaged by harmful ignorance.

**People: Renew our commitment and awaken our praise.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for the revival of habitations

for the birds of the air, animals of the land, and creatures of the sea

that are threatened by willful neglect.

**People: Renew our commitment and awaken our praise.**

Leader: Hear our prayers for all people

that we will use the knowledge and creativity you have given us

to advance human flourishing in harmony with our fellow creatures.

**People: Renew our commitment and awaken our praise.**

Leader: May your glory, Wise Maker, endure forever and may you delight in all your works.

**People: Amen.**

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 #2043

*Alleluia*

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Sunil Kotian

OFFERTORY DUET

*Christ is Risen*

H. Purcell

Diane Stebbe, Amy Cuomo, soloists

Christ is risen! Alle! Alleluia!  
He triumphed over the grave. He died our souls to save!  
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Christ opened paradise!  
Easter people raise your voice!  
O raise your voice and let us all rejoice, and alleluias let us praise!  
To celebrate this day of days and with glad voices raise!  
For Christ is risen and triumphed o'er the grave!

\*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

Romans 8:18-25

<sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Heirloom Seeds of the Resurrection*

Darren Cushman Wood

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2084

*Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise*

***Come, let us with our Lord arise, our Lord, who made both earth and skies:  
who died to save the world he made, and rose triumphant from the dead;  
he rose, the Prince of life and peace, and stamped the day forever his.***

***This is the day the Lord has made, that all may see his love displayed,  
may feel his resurrection's power, and rise again, to fall no more,  
in perfect righteousness renewed, and filled with all the life of God.***

***Then let us render him his own, with solemn prayer approach his throne,  
with meekness hear the gospel word, with thanks his dying love record,***

*our joyful hearts and voices raise, and fill his courts with songs of praise.*

\*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*This Joyful Eastertide*

arr. A. Bullard

### Upcoming Events:

April 27, Pine Creek Tree Planting

April 28, United Women in Faith Sunday Supper, noon

May 12, Children's Mothers' Day Musical: *Moonlight SUN-ata*, 9:45am

May 19, Haydn's *Mass for St. John of God*, 11:00am

June 2, Church Picnic, noon

Support for Family Promise:  
May - Collecting houseware items

### This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood

*Senior Pastor*

Sunil Kotian

*Pastor of Mission & Outreach*

Amy Sell

*Minister of Discipleship &  
Formation*

Brandon Wallace

*Minister of Youth & Young Adults*

John Hague, James Horton,

Allen McCormack

*Audio Visual*

Mark Gilgallon

*Music Director*

Heather Hinton

*Organist*

*Pine Creek Tree Planting is on April 27. We are going to be planting 114 trees at Pine Creek Camp in West Lafayette, IN. We will leave the church at 8:30am and will plan to return by 7pm. We need volunteers, and we will also provide lunch and dinner for the trip. When signing up, please let me know if you need transportation or if you will provide your own transportation to Pine Creek. I also need drivers if anyone wants to take passengers. Please signup by April 22 if interested in volunteering by emailing [bwallace@northchurchindy.com](mailto:bwallace@northchurchindy.com).*