

Plymouth Congregational Church
April 20, 2025 – Resurrection of Our Lord

Chiming the Trinity

Prelude

Luke Michelson, violin

Christ the Lord is Risen Today – arr. Coleman

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Charles

- Bible Study: Tuesdays, 9:00 am, Fireside Room.
- Liturgist sign-up sheets in the narthex.
- Chime choir – Tuesdays, 1:30 pm, sanctuary.
- Wednesday, April 3
 - Sandwich Ministry, 9:30 am, kitchen.
 - Worship Committee, 11:00 am, Founder's Room.

Invitation to Worship *adapted from Psalm 116* Patsy Tompkins

One: Keep us safe, O God, for we find our refuge in you.

All: Apart from you, God, we have no good thing

One: You alone are our portion and our cup.

All: We praise you for your counsel;

One: We keep our eyes on you.

All: My heart is glad, our tongues rejoice.

One: You make known to me the path of life;

All: Your presence fills us with joy!.

Gathering Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

NCH 233

Unison Prayer

Pastor Charles

God of Miracles and Impossible Things, we sing your praise and rejoice in your presence. We are overcome with awe of you, for you have promised us life everlasting. You have risen from death, Jesus the Christ, and we are born anew in you. Be with us as we embrace this rebirth into a new people, with love, and peace, new hope, and new strength. Give us the courage to be our new selves in this new day.

[We invite you to rest in this brief moment of silence to listen for God's loving message for you this day.]

Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Patsy Tompkins

People of God, hear the good news! You have been reborn with Jesus the Christ in the Holy Spirit of our Creator God! We are reborn as the family of God, charged with spreading God's love, mercy, and justice throughout the world! Let us look to one another for strength in the days to come, filled with God's light, our cups overflowing with grace, charity, generosity, and joy! Amen.

Congregational Response *The Day of Resurrection*

NCH 245

Prayer of Illumination

Gail Tronstad

Loving God, open our hearts and our minds to hear your voice in the words written in our scriptures, and to find ways to reflect and respond as your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Reading from the Prophets

Jeremiah 31:2-5

Thus says our God:
The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,
God appeared from far away.
I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!
Again you shall take your tambourines,
and go forth in the dance of the merry-makers.
Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.

Musical Interlude

Plymouth Choir

How Great Thou Art/Crown Him – adapted from Raney & Sewell

Gospel Reading *Luke 24:1-12* Pastor Charles

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.

Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But, these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Reflection

Musical Reflection

Luke Michelson, violin

My Jesus, I Love Thee – arr. Campbell

Prayers of the People

Pastor Charles

Infinite and Eternal One, we thank you for your renewing spirit. We thank you for your blessings of creation and wonder, thought and imagination. You have been so generous with the abundance and diversity of the world; help us to appreciate it, to welcome it and grow from it. Let us learn from all you have given to us, from the truth and light spoken through your prophets, to the challenges and opportunities in our everyday lives. We ask you to pull us outside of our comfort zones, to help us be more understanding, more empathetic, and more open to those who are different from us. Thank you, Jesus, for the blazing fire of hope that you have kindled within us. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for walking with us and for drawing us ever closer together, to be one family of God.

Help us to take care of each other, and to love each other the way that you love us.

Help us to truly understand your sacrificial love, and how that type of love should be an example for us. Help us to understand your courage, patience, endurance, and forgiveness, so that we too might be brave, and patient, and steadfast, and forgiving.

For all who are in medical treatment or recovery, we pray for comfort and healing. For all who are experiencing homelessness or hunger, we pray for safety and sustenance. For those experiencing war or natural disasters, we pray for peace and refuge. For those who have lost loved ones, we pray for hope and solace.

Special Prayers: Ann Chivlicek, Maxine Ferguson, Art Gilreath, Loraine Hopgood, Doris Powell, Marlyce Taylor, and Giles Walker. All those who are experiencing the horrors of war and natural disasters.

Medical Treatment: Greg Bolin, Gus Byrom, Brian Coplin, Karen Mills, Kelly Murphy, Phyllis Weaver.

Bereavement: The families Mary Dana White, and Richard Penfield III.

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.

Tithes and Offerings

Donations can be made at our website.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Charles

Departing Hymn

He Lives!

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***nvitation to Fellowship**

Pastor Charles

~ What is something in your life that needs rebirth or renewal?

Charge & Benediction

Go forth as the new people of God! Reborn in glory and light, the grace of our Risen Lord surrounds you and lives inside of you. You are the face of Jesus for every person that you meet. Be the love and peace and justice that the world needs. Rejoice on this Easter Sunday, for Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

And now, may our Creator God instill within you a spirit of creativity. May Jesus the Christ live inside of you, and help you to remember to love and forgive others, as well as yourself. And, may the

Holy Spirit always be with you, as you make your way on this journey that we call life, so that you will never be alone. Go in peace. Amen.

Congregational Blessing *Go Out Now in Peace* Sing! 212
Postlude

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

~ Corrie ten Boom