

GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, April 7, 2024 | Communion and 2nd Sunday of Easter

Hal Parker, Music Director

Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters, Pastor

Prelude

solo piano, Hal

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

One: As we join in worship this day, we might feel like the disciples, overwhelmed by grief. After all, the state of the world is so uncertain now.

Many: **But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, “Peace be with you.”**

One: We might feel like Thomas, looking for physical signs that the unbelievable could be true. After all, nothing like this has ever happened before.

Many: **But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, “Here are the marks on my body.”**

One: Can we really believe that Jesus is here again?

Many: **Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on us. Christ’s peace is with us. We don’t need to be afraid.**

One: Our resurrected Christ calls us to worship, and we receive the peace of Christ.

Many: **Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!**

Opening Prayer

***Gloria Patri #36**

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Hymn: #516 (Songs of Spirit)**

O Day of God, Draw Near

Unison Prayer for Confession

We use a lot of words, Gracious God, but do little to turn them into deeds. Instead of being of one heart and soul, we choose sides and form groups of folks just like us.

Blessed with great grace, we have trouble sharing it with those who need it the most.

Forgive us, God of love. Forgive us, as we step out of our shadows into your light.

Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness. Hear us, as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture

1 John 1:1 - 2:2

Harold Gray

Anthem

“Around His Table” by Judy Hunnicutt

Sermon

Walking Together

Rev. Ed Sunday-Winters

** Those who are able, please stand.*

A Time of Silence

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

God of the Resurrection, help us use these gifts to offer hope where there is sorrow, peace where there is chaos and love where there is fear. We can do incredible things because your Spirit lives within us. Amen.

Communion

***Hymn: #320 (Songs of Spirit)**

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

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.

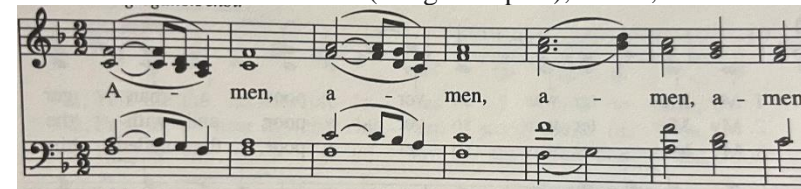


***Hymn: #442 (Songs of Spirit)**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

***Benediction**

***Musical Benediction #174 (Songs of Spirit), Amen, Amen**



Postlude

solo organ, Hal

Greensboro United Church of Christ *An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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To Our Visitors

*If you are new among us, welcome!
Whoever you are, wherever you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.
You are invited to become a part of our life together.
Our goal is to be a loving and caring church,
and we hope you feel this
Please help us to know you by introducing yourself,
filling out a green pew card, and joining us in
fellowship following the service
May you go forth refreshed by the Spirit here.*

Our Mission: To love as Jesus loved, caring for others and joyfully serving God, our community and our world.

Worship During COVID: Masking is now optional

- *Stay home if you are ill (even a little)*
- *Distance from others around you*

Our Church's Wider Mission: As we support Our Church's Wider Mission, we lift up the work of the Lesotho Evangelical Church in Southern Africa (LECSA) advocates for conservation agriculture or "Farming God's Way," which practices minimum tillage, use of mulch, covering crops, and mixed cropping. Lesotho has been hit hard by climate change. The country is experiencing extreme weather conditions (heavy rains, hailstorms, and excessive drought). These weather patterns have seriously affected the production of crops and vegetables, and the country is in a food crisis. LECSA trained thirteen (13) Pastors from nine (9) presbyteries to train others in conservation agriculture. Those who practice it widely benefit because the yield from their fields is increasing despite the extreme weather. The church is encouraging other parishes and rural communities to join in and fight against the food crisis.

PARISH NEWS:

COFFEE HOUR: Please join us after Sunday service for refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

Poetry and Prose for Peace: Rural Arts would like to invite you to attend our free workshops. In this three-part series, two renowned authors, Peter Gould and Sean Prentiss, are guiding our community through a creative exploration of peace reflected in nature, humanity, and action. Through writing, storytelling, and listening to each other, we can learn about the perspectives and experiences of our global and local neighbors in an attempt to answer the question "What is peace?". Sean and Peter Gould will co-lead the final workshop, on April 20. Link to register is in the weekly email newsletter, or email greensborochurch@gmail.com to get a link!

Peace Vigil: Thursdays at 5pm at the Hardwick Peace Park. We are horrified by the violence on both sides. Join us in calling for an end to the bloodshed.

GUCC Directory: Have an edit? Send it to greensborochurchdirectory@gmail.com!

FELLOWSHIP HALL CLASS SCHEDULE:

- Bone Builders: Mon & Wed 10-11 am
- Global Campus: Tuesdays, 12-3pm
- TaiChi: Thurs, 9:15-10:30, 10:30-11:30 am
- Pilates: Tue & Thurs 4-5 pm

Greensboro Planning Commission Meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 10:30-12, Library

Parents Group: Wednesday, April 10, 11-1, Classroom

Deacons Meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 3-5 pm, Library and Zoom

Hardwick Peace Vigil Committee Film and Discussion: Sunday, April 14, 2-6 pm, FH

Next Week's Lectionary: Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48