



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**April 16, 2023**

**Second Sunday after Easter**

*As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.*

**The Prelude**

*Trust and Obey*

Daniel B. Towner

## **The Call to Worship**

Leader: My heart is glad!

**People: My soul rejoices, and my body rests secure!**

Leader: For you do not abandon me.

**People: You give me counsel.**

Leader: You are at my right hand.

**People: You show me the path of life.**

Leader: Your presence is sheer joy.

**People: You are my God; apart from you, I have no good.**

**Blessed is your name!**

**The Processional Hymn No. 163**

*Ask Ye What Great Thing I know*

HENDON

1. Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so?  
What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
2. Who defeats my fiercest foes? Who consoles my saddest woes?  
Who revives my fainting heart, healing all its hidden smart?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
3. Who is life in life to me? Who the death of death will be?  
Who will place me on his right, with the countless hosts of light?  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.
4. This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so:  
faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave:  
Jesus Christ, the crucified.

## **The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Stand among us once again, risen Christ,  
and bless us with your greeting:  
"Peace be with you."**

**Stand among us once again, Exalted Brother,  
and breathe upon us your promised Spirit.**

**Stand among us once again, you who have escaped death,  
and give us new birth into your living hope. Amen.**

## The Announcements

## The Prayer of Illumination

## The Psalter pages 748

Psalm 16

*The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone.  
All other responses will be sung by everyone.*

Ps. 16:1  
Gary Alan Smith



Pre - serve me. O God. for in you I tke ref - uge.

### *Response*

<sup>5</sup> The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.

<sup>6</sup> **The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
I have a glorious heritage.**

<sup>7</sup> I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
even at night my heart instructs me.

<sup>8</sup> **I have set the Lord always before me;  
the Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not be moved.**

### *Response*

<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
my body also dwells secure.

<sup>10</sup> **For you do not give me up to Sheol,  
or let your godly one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup> You show me the path of life;  
**in you presence there is fullness of joy,  
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

### *Response*

## The Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

## The Hymn No. 311

*Now the Green Blade Riseth*

FRENCH CAROL

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.
2. In the grave they laid him, Love who had been slain,  
thinking that he never would awake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;  
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Jesus' touch You call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

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**The Sermon**                      *Wanted: Fearful doubting People to do God's Work*                      Dr. Matt Bates

**The Offertory Prayer**

**The Offertory**                      *Bridge over Troubled Water*                      Paul Simon  
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**The Prayers of the People**

The Silent Prayer  
The Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer No. 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 that 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.**

**The Recessional Hymn No. 157**                      *Jesus Shall Reign*                      DUKE STREET

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run;  
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To Jesus endless prayer be made,  
and endless praises crown his head;  
his name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.

4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns;  
all prisoners leap and loose their chains;  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring  
honors peculiar to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen!

## **The Benediction**

### **The Postlude**

*We Know That Christ Is Raised*

Charles Villiers Stanford

*Reminder! Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning  
by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).*

*The altar flowers this morning are in honor of Vic and Nancy Grand  
by Florence Clay Bishop.*

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us throughout the week to make all the worship  
services this week possible.*

## **Scriptures**

### **John 20:19-31**

#### **Jesus Appears to the Disciples**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

#### **Jesus and Thomas**

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

## **The Purpose of This Book**

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## *Announcements*

**EARTH DAY CALL FOR TUPPERWARE!** The Pace Center (VCU campus ministry) is requesting new and/or used food storage containers. Pace provides food to students and, in order to honor our commitment to caring for creation, refrains from using disposable containers. Please drop off new or used containers (clean and with a tight-fitting lid) by April 30. A drop off box is located outside the Ladies Parlor.

**THE CHOSEN – Today at 11:30am.** Did you miss the season finale? We will host a repeat screening of the final episode of Season 3 in Fellowship Hall.

**PUB THEOLOGY – Sunday, April 23 at 4:00pm.** Join us at Hardywood in Scott's Addition! Our discussion this month is "What is Heaven?" We look forward to seeing you there!

**SMETHIE CIRCLE – Wednesday, April 26 - at 1:00pm -** We have elected to once again create kits to be made up for general conference. (Many of you might remember our taking the supplies to our treasured beach events and assembling them there - what fun!) This year we have chosen to make **20 health kits**. The materials will be purchased and we will gather together and have fun as we assemble the kits to have them ready in time for conference.

**A CELEBRATION OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF STAN BAKER – April 30 immediately following worship.** Join us as we honor and celebrate Stan's 31 years as the Music Director at Centenary! Please bring your favorite brunch type foods for the celebration. Items may be left in the church kitchen prior to the service.

**SAVE THE DATE – May 4 at Noon. Calling all women. Quiche and Salad Lunch.** A tradition of food, fun, fellowship for more than 35 years. Please bring a quiche, salad or dessert to share. This invitation is open to everyone and their guests. No reservations necessary! Questions? Contact the church office.

**LOST AND FOUND – A DAY OF REFLECTION, HOPE AND HEALING – Saturday, May 20, 9:30am-3:00pm. Cost: \$35.** Our worlds have been turned upside down in the past three years. Our facilitator, David Hoover, will lead us in a day of meditation, silence and sharing as we examine together what has been the toll and treasure of these pandemic years. For more information, contact the church office. To register use QR or email davidwhoover@aol.com.



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00am -** Join us on Wednesdays as we gather on Zoom to look at the scripture for the upcoming week. An email is out with all the details on Tuesdays. If you would like to be added to the Bible study email list, please contact the church office.

**Online Giving Made Easy – No Account Needed!**

