

CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER **APRIL 11, 2021**

GATHERING MUSIC AND WORDS OF WELCOME

Thank you for masking and continuing to keep distance.

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

God restates the joyful resurrection proclamation.

Abilities faded and forgotten are channeled toward new creativity – **that's resurrection.**

Friendships once killed by frosty misunderstanding bloom again in warm reconciliation –
that's resurrection.

Hopes glimmering and gone are rekindled by expressions of caring – **that's resurrection.**

Faith, dulled by lack of exercise, dances again to God's everyday rhythms –
that's resurrection.¹

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

He Lives!

#310

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray.² **Amen**

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURES FOR TODAY John 20:19-31

MORNING REFLECTION

To doubt or not to doubt...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Open Our Eyes

#2086

DEDICATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Holy One, you have given yourself to us in Creator, in Christ, in the Spirit. We now give back to you: **this money that seems so little; this worship that seems so small; these words that never quite get it right.**

Receive what we offer and transform it by the power of your Spirit into: **enough money, sufficient praise, worthy words for proclaiming and enacting your peace, justice, and love in the world. AMEN**

HYMN OF THANKS

Dear Jesus, in Whose Life I See

#468

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

¹ Ruth Duck

² Nancy Townley

³ Joanna Harader

He Lives

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near

Refrain: He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart

In all the world around me I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair
I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing will come at last
Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find
None other is so loving, so good and kind

Open our eyes Lord

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him

Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

Dear Jesus, in Whose Life I See

Dear Jesus, in whose life I see all that I would, but fail to be,
Let your clear light forever shine, to shame and guide this heart of mine.

Though what I dream and what I do in my weak days are always two,
help me, oppressed by things undone, O you those deeds and dreams are one!