

Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church
Sunday, April 12, 2020 – 11 a.m.
Easter Sunday – Online Worship

Prelude

“Worthy is the Lamb”
from Handel’s *Messiah*

The Sanctuary Choir

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain,
and hath redeemed us to God by his blood,
to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength,
and honour, and glory, and blessing.
Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him
that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.
Amen.
(Revelation 5:12-14)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Susan Haynes

Call to Worship

Swan
by Mary Oliver

Rev. Jennie Sankey

Did you too see it, drifting, all night on the black river?
Did you see it in the morning, rising into the silvery air,
an armful of white blossoms,
a perfect commotion of silk and linen as it leaned
into the bondage of its wings:
a snowbank, a bank of lilies,
biting the air with its black beak?
Did you hear it,
fluting and whistling a shrill dark music,
like the rain pelting the trees,
like a waterfall
knifing down the black ledges?
And did you see it, finally, just under the clouds—
a white cross streaming across the sky,
its feet like black leaves,
its wings like the stretching light of the river?
And did you feel it, in your heart, how it pertained to everything?
And have you too finally figured out what beauty is for?
And have you changed your life?

Hymn

*“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”
The choir will sing an introduction and then
the congregation will join beginning with stanza 1*

1 "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Make like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave the skies, Alleluia!

A Litany for Easter (responsive)

Rev. Jody Andrade

One: Trembling, the women approached the tomb.

The tomb: that mysterious place of meeting.

Death meeting life. Women meeting the risen Christ.

All: Trembling, we approach the edge of where death and life meet.

Death, the unknown, meets new life, also unknown.

New life faces us with its possibilities and uncertainties.

We approach, trembling.

One: Easter morning: the women came face to face with Jesus, face to face with the risen Christ.

They doubted, they feared, they were struck with awe as life was returned to them from death.

All: From a triumphant Palm Sunday to a dark, betrayed Friday, we have journeyed to Easter.

Wiser now, we know that joy and sorrow, life and death are bound together.

Passing through sorrow, through death, to life and joy, we arrive at Easter.

One: The risen Jesus still bore the marks of the nails.

Life knows death, joy knows sorrow.

Yet it is life which triumphs over all, and love which conquers all fear.

All: Death is shattered!

The disciples stared death face to face and saw that it had lost its power.

One: We have survived the deaths, the sorrows, the pains. We receive new life.

All: Rejoice! Life bursts through death. God is with us. Alleluia!

Response

"Thine is the Glory"

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Children's Sermon

Jennie

Anthem

"Hallelujah"

from Beethoven's *Mount of Olives*

Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son.
Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs
In holy songs of Joy.
Man, proclaim his grace and glory,
Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son.
Praise the Lord in holy songs of joy.

Prayer of Illumination (unison)

Susan

**Almighty God, who through your Son overcame death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life,
grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection
may arise from the death of our sin through the renewal of your Holy Spirit
and may hear and obey your living Word of truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever. Alleluia, amen!**

Scripture Reading

Mark 16:1-8

Susan

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the

week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Untranslatable Joy"

Susan

Affirmation of Faith

Question 1 of the Heidelberg Catechism

One: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayers

Jody

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which 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.

Offering and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jody

Hymn # 246*“Christ is Alive”*

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

3 In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Benediction

Susan

Postlude

Toccata from Symphony for Organ No. 5
by Charles-Marie Widor

Hyoun Joo Sung