



# An Eastertide Message of Hope

*presented by:*

The Episcopal Office  
of The Iowa Annual Conference  
of The United Methodist Church



*This worship service has been planned for your inspiration and encouragement while providing a moment of rest for our local church leaders in this season of COVID-19.*

***Bolded italic print indicates where you are invited to respond or sing.***

**Prelude**

Rev. Terra Amundson

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”, arranged by Phillip Keveren*

**Welcome and Greeting**

Bishop Laurie Haller

*...I invite you to join me in prayer.*

*As we begin our worship, keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain those who are anxious and fearful or who are now unemployed. Lift up all who have tested positive and are being treated in hospitals, and comfort families who have lost loved ones. May we rejoice in your grace, knowing that nothing can separate us from your love.*

*In this time of anxiety, give us strength to love our neighbor, walk with the fearful, and assure those who are isolated right now of our support and encouragement. We give ourselves to you, Lord. May this time of worship fill our hearts with peace and inspire us to be your vessels of hope. Amen.*

**Call to Worship**

Rev. Melissa Drake

**Opening Hymn**

Revs. Paul Wilcox and Gayle Wilcox

*“Come Christians Join to Sing”, United Methodist Hymnal 158*

*Come, Christians, join to sing:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
loud praise to Christ our King:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Let all, with heart and voice,  
before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice.  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Come, lift your hearts on high:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*He is our guide and friend;  
to us he'll condescend;  
his love shall never end:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Praise yet the Lord again:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*On heaven's blissful shore  
his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

**Opening Prayer**

Rev. Carol Kress

**Children's Message**

Rev. Moody Colorado

**Scripture and Message**

Bishop Deborah Kiesey

*“And Now It's Monday”*

John 20:19-22

*When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said "Peace be with you."*

*After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.*

*Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.*

*Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*

*When he had said this he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*

### **Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Kiboko I. Koboko

Throughout the prayer, you are invited to respond:

*Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayers.*

French version:

*Notre Père, qui es aux cieux, Que ton nom soit sanctifié, Que ton règne vienne, Que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour. Pardonne-nous nos offenses Comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous soumetts pas à la tentation, mais délivre-nous du mal, car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, aux siècles des siècles.*

English version:

*Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.*

*And all God's people said, Amen!*

### **Call to Offering**

Rev. Ron Carlson

### **Offertory Song**

Rev. Doug and Jodie Cue

*"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" by Matt Redman*

Refrain

*Bless the Lord Oh my soul, oh my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name*

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever  
lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes*

Refrain

*You're rich in love And You're slow to anger  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
10,000 reasons for my heart to find*

Refrain

*And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise  
unending  
10,000 years and then forever more*

Refrain

## **Closing Prayer**

Rev. Bill Poland and with images provided  
by Rev. Dr. Jaye Johnson

## **Benediction and Blessing**

Rev. Dr. Heecheon Jeon

*... So may the grace of Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and for ever. Amen.*

## **Postlude**

Rev. Dr. Harlan and Deb Gillespie

*"How Can I Keep From Singing? (My Life flows On)" by Robert Lowry*

*My life flows on in endless song,  
above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the clear, though faroff hymn  
that hails a new creation.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

*What though my joys and comforts die?  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

*Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing?  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing?  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

## **Getting Connected**

Rev. Dr. Lanette Plambeck

Thank you for joining us in worship today!

In the name of the good Lord, we pray for you and your family. We pray for your pastors, worship teams and church staff and that this worship service has been able to give them rest and respite during these challenging times. We pray for the health and healing of all those affected by COVID-19 in the many ways it has devastated lives. We mourn the loss of loved ones and pray for comfort for their families.

We pray that this worship was able to give you a message of hope in these unsettled times and that you know that nothing is stronger than the risen Christ who rose from the grave and paved the way for a new life. We pray that Christ's light will shine in you, through you and over you. We pray that through Jesus, you will make a difference in the world, for God's glory and purpose. Thanks be to God for this beautiful day.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.