

Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church Worship, April 4, 2021 • Easter Sunday •

Bold = all read • Regular = Leader • * = Stand as you are able

Prelude

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Organist, Julie Pulliam
by John Darwall

Introit

Introit

Ridge Ringers, Anne Baker, Eileen Gardner, Betty Niquette

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

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

*Call to Worship

Elder Chuck Miller

This day is like every other day.

Alarm clocks beeped. Covers were removed.

Coffee was brewed. Weary bodies came to life.

And yet this day, is like no other day—

For the sun rose, and we knew it was a miracle.

The tomb was empty, and they knew it was love.

So again and again we say—

The longest night is over.

Death has lost its sting.

Jesus is among us.

Alleluia! Amen.

Again and again and again—

Alleluia! Amen.

Special Hymn:

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

PH#104

Katie Sakanai

Music by Ludvig van Beethoven
Lyrics by Brian Wren, Adapt. Edward Hodges

*(The WRPC COVID-19 Task Force decided that it is not yet safe to sing in large groups.
We join in this great Easter hymn in our hearts as we listen to Katie sing!)*

Call to Prayer & Responsive Prayer for Renewal and Assurance of God's Grace

Let us pray together...

Holy God who holds us together,

If I were to place myself at your table, I would probably be Peter—

misunderstanding your radical hospitality,

sticking to the rules,

arguing what I do and don't deserve.

Beloved Community, before God and before you, my family, I confess:

I have seen the sun rise and withheld my praise.

I have seen my neighbor suffer and withheld my aid.

I have seen love extended and chosen to walk away.

I have seen divisions deepen and managed to remain unfazed.

We hear you. We see you. You are forgiven.

God's love is like the sun.

No matter how lost we are in the night,

day after day, the light will find you.

Rest easy. You are held in God's warmth.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Now we must pray.

Beloved friend, before God and before each other, we confess:

We have seen the sun rise and withheld our praise.

We have seen our neighbors suffer and have withheld our aid.

We have seen love extended and chosen to walk away.

We have seen divisions deepen and managed to remain unfazed.

I hear you. I see you. You are forgiven.

God's love is like the sun.

No matter how lost we are in the night,

day after day, the light will find you.

Rest easy. You are held in God's warmth.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, amen.

Prayer for Illumination and Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 25:6-9

Mark 16:1-8

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Deacon Reader, Janette Powers
Laura Sugg

Time with All Ages

Linda Valo, Director of Christian Education

Children and youth are invited to come up front and sit in family units on X marks the spot.

Message: Again & Again, the Sun Rises

Special Music

Walk Softly in Springtime
Katie Sakanai

Music by Thomas F. Savoy
Lyrics by Edna F. Grant

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord's Prayer ("forgive us our sins...")

Special Music

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
Ridge Ringers, Anne Baker, Eileen Gardner, Betty Niquette

Music by Thomas F. Savoy
PH # 123

***Closing Sentences of Affirmation**

We know the fear of the upper room.
We know the feeling of hard days and long nights.
We know the grief of the tomb,
and the particular ache of saying goodbye.
We know the pain of Good Friday,
and we know the darkness before dawn.
And still, ...and still, ...we believe.
We believe that again and again,
the sun will rise.
Again and again,
God will draw near.
Again and again,
we will march toward justice.
Again and again,
the tomb will be empty.
Again and again,
Love will win.
Again and again,
God will lead the church.
Again and again,
and again and again,
we will be loved.
The journey will not be perfect.
We will need to rise before dawn.
We will need angels along the way.
But again and again,
the sun will rise.
We believe.
Amen.

Charge and Benediction

As you leave this space,
may your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm—
again and again and again,
until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
go with courage, go with heart, go in peace. Amen!

Postlude

Thine Is the Glory

Organist, Julie Pulliam

Based on a Tune from "Judas Maccabaeus,"
by George Frederick Handel, Arr. By Robert J. Hughes

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Organist, Julie Pulliam

by John Darwall

HAPPY EASTER!