

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 118*

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!

**All: The Lord is my strength and my might;
God has become my salvation.**

One: The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**All: This is the day the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

***OPENING HYMN** "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" GtG 213

1. **In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**
2. **When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hope deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.**
3. **When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.**

(continued ...)

4. **Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.**

5. **In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

Words: John Bowring, 1825

Music: (RATHBUN) Ithamar Conkey, 1849

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PRELUDE TO PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: We come before God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we take refuge. The Lord is our portion and our cup, but we are always thirsting for more. God shows us the path of life, but we are not satisfied. In God's presence we find fullness of joy; in God's right hand are pleasures forevermore. Therefore, let us confess our sins.

Let us pray:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O Lord, you know the trials we suffer, and you know the genuineness of our faith is being tested by fire. We have locked the doors to our hearts and our lives because we are afraid. Even when you appear to us and tell us to be at peace, we are not. Like Thomas, we have doubts. We are guarded, suspicious, and closed off. Reveal yourself to us so that our faith may result in praise and glory and honor. Although we have not seen you, we love you; and though we do not see you now, we want to believe in you so we may rejoice with indescribable and glorious joy as we receive the outcome of our faith, the salvation of our souls. Hear our personal and private prayers as we come to you in this moment of silence...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: By God's great mercy, we have been given new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for us. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel,

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Old Testament Psalm 118: 21-24 [NRSV]
Epistle I Peter 1: 3-9 [NRSV]
GOSPEL: John 20: 19-31 [NRSV]

SERMON "The Chief Cornerstone" *by Reverend Emily Rosencrans*

***HYMN** "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" GtG 394 [Tune GtG 143]

- 1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion' help forever,
and our confidence alone.**
- 2. To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your loving kindness;
hear your people as we pray,
and you fullest benediction
shed within these walls today.**

(continued ...)

**3. Here bestow on all your servants
what they see from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever
with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in you glory
evermore with you to reign.**

**4. Laud and honor to the Father,
laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run!**

Words: Latin, 7th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.

Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Thomas Smart, 1867; Public Domain

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles Creed” (Traditional)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;**

(continued ...)

**the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One:

**All: Lord, hear our prayers. In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed by 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

Invitation

*“This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in
it, as we give to the work of God’s kingdom.”*

Reflection

**Prayer of Dedication*

*One: God of steadfast love and faithfulness, may these gifts go forth
to bring strength where there is weakness and hope where there is
despair. Show forth your power and might. Open the gates of
righteousness so all may come in. Bless what we give as we continue
to build upon the sure foundation Amen.*

***CLOSING HYMN “Thine is the Glory” GtG 238**

- 1. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death has one.**

- 2. Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost ins sting.**

Refrain

- 3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more that conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.**

Refrain

*Words: Edmond Louis Budry, 1884; trans. R. Birch Hoyle, 1923, alt.
Music: JUDAS MACCABEUS, George Frederick Handel, 1748
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***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**All: The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord’s doing and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

One: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Amen.

POSTLUDE

***Standing if able.**