



"Resurrection" by Andrea di Bartolo.

Christ Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dan Stark, pastor
Matthew Lawrenz, musician
and Nancy Charles, soloist

www.uccmke.org

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In this eighth week after the Pentecost event and our first worship service in-person during the pandemic, we begin a new sermon series: Emerge. This week we have two scriptures which highlight emergence and return in the Bible – the story of the flood subsiding in Genesis 8 and Jesus’ appearance to the disciples after the resurrection in John 20. The flood subsides and reveals dry land and a new beginning for Noah, his family, and the animals of the earth. Jesus returns to the disciples who gather in the upper room after the resurrection. Even though Christ rose from the dead, the danger from the Religious and Roman Authorities was as real as ever. This week as some of us emerge from our homes during COVID-19 to return to worship in person, we can perhaps relate to Noah and the disciples, who were cautious and aware of the very real danger the world around them posed. We can be reminded of God’s promise to be with us, even in the midst of a pandemic.

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Ashdown

Prayer for the First Time Leaving Shelter

Rev. Quinn G. Caldwell

Now I walk me out the door.

I pray thee Lord, protect from spores.

Bless, dear Lord, the care I take

Not to worsen this outbreak.

Guide me safely through the day

And bring me home, masked and OK.

Amen.

Words of Welcome

A Song for Today

O God, Beyond All Praising

#Hymn 64

Opening Litany

UCC Worship Ways

What is the kin-dom of heaven like?

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

A tiny mustard seed that carries the life of a tree

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

A tiny portion of yeast that makes bread rise

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

A tiny pearl of great price that we would give all our “stuff” to have

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

A fishing boat filled with catch—good and bad together—

With fisherfolk wise to recognize the good.

Prayer for Today

Rev. Susan A. Blain

Holy One,
 you call us to find your kin-dom
 already hidden in our world –
 in tiny, transforming possibilities;
 in beauty that calls us to surrender all;
 in complicated choices that call for wisdom.
 Reveal yourself here in this moment
 And heighten our senses that we may find you
 And join you in building this kin-dom of love, and hope, and peace.
 In the name of the One who calls us to seek,
 Jesus, the Christ. **Amen.**



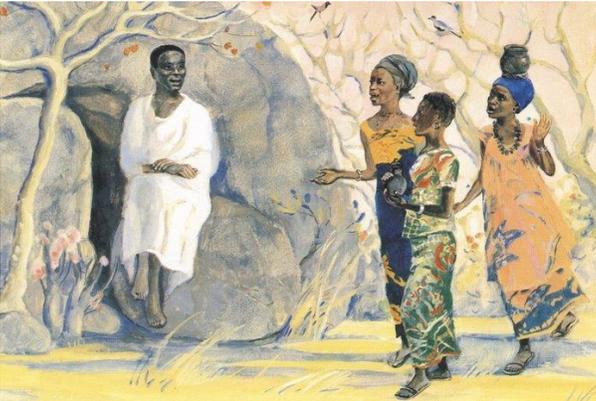
"Resurrection" by Jacopo da Pontormo.

The Gloria

Old Testament

[Genesis 8:1-22](#)

This week's reading from Genesis is the end of the great flood which decimated all of creation in a terrible "cosmic restart." Noah, his family, and animals anxiously sheltered in place upon a gigantic ark for 40 days and nights. Noah sent birds to scout for land, but it was not until twenty-nine days after the rain stopped that the earth was dry enough to inhabit again. God commanded Noah to take his human family and the animal families off the ark and to populate the earth once more. Noah and his family cautiously but faithfully emerged from the ark. Noah built an altar to God, and God set a rainbow in the clouds as a sign of God's promise never to flood the earth again.



"The Resurrection" by Jesus Mafa.

New Testament

[John 20:19-22](#)

In this Gospel selection from John, Jesus appears to the disciples after his resurrection. After Jesus' death and subsequent resurrection, the disciples were scared and confused. Although Christ had risen – they were still in very real danger from the Religious and Roman Authorities in their day. In this reading, Jesus finds the disciples hiding in the place where they enjoyed their Last Supper together. He breathes a word of peace and encouragement to them before leaving them once more.

Homily

Emerge: With Care and Promise

Rev. Dan Stark

Song of Response

Seek Ye First

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

UCC Worship Ways

*Our God calls us to seek and find the hints of the Kin-dom in our world, and to nurture its growth among us.
 We will use our gifts, tithes and offerings to rebuild the body of Christ.*

Prayer of Dedication

Grow these gifts in your love, Bless our offerings, our hearts and our hopes in your love. To make us worthy of your work for your Kin-dom in heaven, And among us here, even now. Fill these gifts and each of us with your goodness. Amen.

Doxology

Litany for Passing the Peace

Mary Luti

We cannot touch just now, not yet.

We cannot shake, embrace, slap each other on the back, or kiss – not yet.

We cannot move around the space, up and down the aisles, jostle each other, trip over kids, reach down the pew to greet the elderly gent who can't get up, scan for the couple who came last week, hope this raucous time will go on and on – or pray that it won't, and the organist will cut it off with the intro to the next hymn – we can't not yet.

But the peace that passes understanding is not like a virus. It doesn't need to contact to infect. It's like the spirit and the wind; it goes wherever it wills, wherever we send it.

Through webs and nets and wires, it googles and zooms to everyone, whose heart needs peace, and to every place there is no peace. And we will share it now: the peace of Christ be with you, and also with you!

Closing Song

Blessed Assurance

arr. Carlson

Sending Blessing

UCC Worship Ways

Go forth in Wisdom, in hope, in courage. With hearts open to recognize the signs of the reign of God in our midst, and courage to create more space for grace in our lives and our world.

Postlude

Fanfare

arr. Purcell & Coates

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If you should need to contact Pastor Stark, please email pastor@uccmke.org.
Christ Church UCC, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207.

We are currently gathering in person for worship with safety and sanitation protocols in place.
Learn more here. <https://www.uccmke.org/covid-19>

An online video of the service will be available Sunday afternoon at www.uccmke.org/worship

You can make your offering to Christ Church through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com) or by mailing a check to Christ Church, 915 East Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53207.

