



Second Christian Church of Kittery – U.C.C.

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024 - 10:00 AM

**Indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able.*

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

Gavotte and Bouree
Down to the River to Pray
Maddoc Johnson, trumpet

J.S. Bach
Traditional

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Make a Joyful Noise
Second Christian Choir

Staplin

Call to Community †

One: Out of the tomb of our despair

Many: God's love bursts forth, enfolding us in joy.

Out of the bloody corpse of our destruction

God leads us to a new creation.

Out of our bewilderment and fear

God creates a song to save the world.

Out of the night of desolation

God has brought our life's Bright Morning Star.

* Hymn #215

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

* Gathering Prayer †

O God of Resurrected Life, in the shadow of our death, reveal your life abundant.

In the glimmers of your dawn, roll away the stone of our despair.

In the bloody violence of our world, lead us with your promises of resurrection.

In the radiance of our risen Savior, give us eyes to see the beauty of your peace.

Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

* Gloria (see insert)

Hirst/Effenberger

Glory to you, creating One!
Glory to you, redeeming Son!
Glory to you, O Spirit, come!
Meet us now, make us one!
Glory to you, O God!

Anthem

Up Above My Head
Second Christian Choir, Dawn Boyer, soprano

Sr. Rosetta Tharpe

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A Prayer Before Reading Scripture

J. Mary Luti

At your word, God of Life, the earth grows green and every creature springs to life!

Re-create us too, we pray, by your holy Word.

*As we receive the ancient Good News, give us the new joy and justice of Easter –
all death destroyed, all captives freed! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen,*

The Scripture

Isaiah 25:6-9, Mark 16:1-8

The Message

"Who Will Roll Away the Stone?"

WE RESPOND

We Share our Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, who 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,

We Offer of Ourselves

Special Music

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles

* Response (#317 in hymnal)

Amen

African-American

* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

God who gives the increase, receive these gifts and multiply them for your kin-dom.

Continually renew life and love and generosity in us.

Be glorified in us and through us. Amen,

WE GO OUT

* Hymn #221

The Strife Is O'er

VICTORY

* Benediction

Music for Going Out

Ain't No Grave

Claude Ely

† Portions of this morning's liturgy were written by William Johnson Everett, 2023. Used with permission.

Welcome one and all!

Whether you are gathering with us in person or worshipping with us online,
remember: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

You have been greeted today by Adam and Cassie Baran.

Our Ushers this morning are Charlie and Nadine Donnell. Our Liturgist is Nadine Donnell.

On this Easter Sunday, we are delighted to welcome Maddoc Johnson to help us trumpet in the Good News on this Resurrection Day! We know you'll enjoy it! Maddoc leads of *The Maddoc Johnson Band*, a New Hampshire based group of musicians exploring themes of joy, loss, pain, and radical social progress as expressed through the mediums of jazz, hip hop, and other forms of musical expression. Welcome, Maddoc!

If you are a guest of ours today, we extend a special Welcome! We hope this morning's worship has helped you to know the promise of the Resurrection for your life. If you do not have a church you regularly attend, we hope you will consider making Second Christian your church home.

The Week Ahead:

Monday, April 1:

6:00pm Seacoast Gay Men

Wednesday April 3:

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 4:

2:00pm Prayer Time - *In person here at the church*

Friday, April 5:

9:00am Breakfast with Brad at *Kasha's Kitchen*

Sunday, April 7:

10:00am ***Worship with Holy Communion
for the Second Sunday of Easter***



Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC

An Open and Affirming Congregation

33 Government St., Kittery, ME 03904

207-439-3903 church@2ccucc.org

Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor • Mike Effenberger, Music Director • Charles Donnell, Treasurer

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel
into joy from sadness:
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.*

*'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.*

*Now the brightest season dawns
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts,
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.*

ST. KEVIN

WORDS: John of Damascus (8th century);
tr. John Mason Neale, 1859
MUSIC: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872

The Strife Is O'er

*The strife is o'er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!*

*The powers of death
have done their worst,
but Christ their legions has dispersed;
let shouts of holy joy outburst:
Alleluia!*

*The three sad days are quickly sped;
Christ rises glorious from the dead;
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!*

*Lord, by your wounds on Calvary,
from death's dread sting
thy servants free,
that we may live eternally.
Alleluia!*

VICTORY

WORDS: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1861
MUSIC: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, 1591; adapt. William
Henry Monk, 1861

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