



Silent Meditation

“Life Begins”

Press, oh press in the day of destruction
The listening ear to the earth,
And you will hear, through your sleep
You will hear,
How in death
Life begins.

~Nelly Sachs

**And if tonight my soul may find her peace
Sleep, and sink in good oblivion,
And in the morning wake like a new-opened flower
Then I have been dipped again in God, and new created.**

~ D.H. Lawrence

I believe in the resurrection of Jesus, like I believe that the sun is shining. Not that I can look directly at it, because you can't, but because in the light of it I can see everything else.

~ N.T. Wright

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
RESURRECTION SUNDAY

April 1, 2018 ~ 8:00 A.M.

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements ☩

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Darkness has been vanquished.

Many: The brilliant light of hope has come.

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers
might have the opportunity to sign them)*

* Passing of the Peace

One: Come, let us now greet one another as a sign of God's peace,
for the peace of Christ is here to stay.

Many: Thanks be to God.

* Hymn 233

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

David A. Smith, trumpet; Bill Tyler, French horn

1. Christ the Lord is risen to-day, Al-le-lu-ia!
Mor-tal tongues and an-gels say: Al-le-lu-ia!
Raise your joys and tri-umphs high, Al-le-lu-ia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth re-ply: Al-le-lu-ia!
2. Let the Vic-tor's peo-ple sign, Al-le-lu-ia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al-le-lu-ia!
Dy-ing once, Christ lives to save, Al-le-lu-ia!
Where your vic-to-ry, O grave? Al-le-lu-ia!
3. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al-le-lu-ia!
Fought the fight, the bat-tle won, Al-le-lu-ia!
Death in vain for-bids Christ rise, Al-le-lu-ia!
God has o-pened par-a-dise, Al-le-lu-ia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has lead, Al-le-lu-ia!
Fol-lowing our ex-alt-ed Head, Al-le-lu-ia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al-le-lu-ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al-le-lu-ia!

* Call to Worship

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: **What was dead shall live;**

One: What was dark shall shine;

Many: **What was forgotten shall be remembered,
For the Lord is risen and walks among us.**

One: In Christ's resurrection, hope triumphs over despair.

Many: **Love triumphs over hate.**

One: Good triumphs over evil.

Many: **Life triumphs over death.**

One: Alleluia to the Living Christ!

All: **Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!**

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:42-55

Brian Hankins

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.... What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable..... For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'

'Where, O death, is your victory?'

'Where, O death, is your sting?'

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Alleluia! Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.**

* *All rise in body or spirit* ☐ *Sing Response* ✕ *Hymnals located below pews*

Prayer of Confession

Jeff Edwards-Knight

One: Hope of the world, you call us together so that even in this day of celebration we might confess all that yet imprisons us. We have life, and the power to live it, from you O God. God of new life, hear our prayers:

All: Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. This day, as we have gathered to celebrate the joy of Easter, let us remember that we are to become “Easter People,” people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been conquered. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need to serve in this world.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness (*from Romans 8:38*)

One: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Alleluia! Amen!

Many: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

Gift of Music

“The Holy City”

F. Weatherly & S. Adams

Jared Fischer, piano; Dorrie Hankins, soprano

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Anne Findlay-Chamberlin

Prayer of Consecration

Nancy Ellett Allison

(Please come forward as directed by the ushers.

Communion is received by intinction. Gluten free wafer available.

Take a wafer or bread and dip it into the cup to receive both elements.)

Music for Communion

Jared Fischer

Communion Reflection “The Lord’s Prayer”

Albert Hay Malotte

Jared Fischer, piano; Laura Valles, soprano

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

Anne Findlay-Chamberlin

We give thanks to you our God for sustaining us for the journey;

For bringing love, life, health and holiness,

For bringing us closer to you,

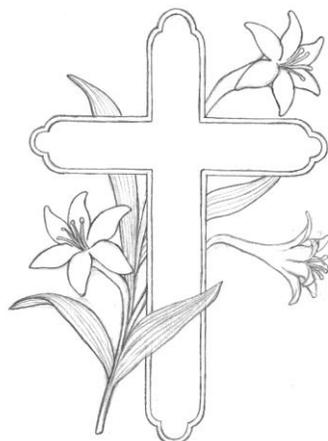
For knowing you are with us in our waiting;

You are with us in our living. Amen.

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 2

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

RECEIVING COMMUNION AT HOLY COVENANT

All are welcome to receive communion at the table of the Living Christ. We observe communion by intinction. Please take a piece of bread or a wafer and dip the bread into the cup to receive both elements at once. Gluten free wafers are available in small ramekin.

SOJOURNERS CLASS - NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sojourners will NOT meet on Easter Sunday. We'll meet again on Sunday, April 8, at 9:45 AM when we continue our discussion of Anne Lamott's *Hallelujah Anyway* with chapter 5 "Impatiens."

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt with separate search sites for our older and younger children will follow our 10:55 AM worship service.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT AT BRCC, JUNE 1-3

Please sign up in the gathering room TODAY so we can reserve a room for you! The cost is \$170 per person, all inclusive, **due on April 1**. All women are invited. We look forward to having you there. For more information see **Suzanne Lamorey** or **Rev. Barbara**. Retreat leader is our own Anne Findlay-Chamberlain.

ALL CHURCH RAFTING RETREAT AT YMCA RETREAT CENTER, AUG 10-12

Everyone is welcome! We will have group sessions on Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday morning. Folks can raft or tube, or enjoy many other

activities. Cost is approximately \$130 per person not including the rafting/tubing fee. Contact **Barbara Schneller** or **Rev. Barbara Thomas** for additional information.

NEW MEMBER/INQUIRER CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY, APRIL 8

If you would like to learn more about our congregation or become a member at Holy Covenant, join our Inquirer's Classes!

April 8, 9:30 am Who We Are & What We Believe

April 15, 9:30 am History of UCC & Holy Covenant

April 22 (time TBA) Organization & Opportunities for Involvement

We will welcome new members on April 29.

Please contact Debbie Davis at DebbieKDavisNC@gmail.com

with any questions or to let her know you plan to attend. Childcare is available if needed.

HCUCC BOOK CLUB

The HCUCC book club has revised their reading schedule:

11 April Little Fires Everywhere by *Cleste Ng* (discussion leader Barb Schneller)

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

YOGA4ALL AT HOLY COVENANT, WEDNESDAYS 7:30 PM

GAME NIGHT, APRIL 14

The Bold and Beautiful Covenant Group is hosting a family game night on Saturday, April 14 at HCUCC! Please save the date and consider using it as your Covenant Group April Activity. Tentative time is 6pm. More information to come! Everyone is welcome!

SEARCHING FOR DEEPER SPIRITUAL GROWTH? JOIN US APRIL 24

Want to be involved in an on-going spiritual formation group? A monthly, evening gathering is taking shape, and you can be a part of its formation. Join us on Tuesday, April 24 at the home of Anne Findlay-Chamberlain from 7-8:30 pm.

(Future days, times and locations will be decided by the group)

Questions and RSVP by 4-23 with Anne at kahuanne@gmail.com or Rev. Barbara: Barbarat@holycovenantucc.org

MICHAEL G. BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 27

This scholarship was created to encourage youth in both their educational growth and service to God. This scholarship is a result of the lives and generosity of Barry Holcomb and his partner, the late Michael G. Brooks - for whom the scholarship is named. Applications must be submitted **Friday, April 27**. Applicants will be notified no later than May 15 and the scholarship will be awarded in May on Youth Sunday. Priority will be given to graduating High School seniors with special consideration for those considering education in the arts. For more information and an application contact the church office, office@holycovenantucc.org.

COVENANT GROUP FACILITATORS MEET, APRIL 29

Group facilitators please gather in the Conference Room following worship on April 29th as we plan for future groups. Please let **Rev. Barbara** know that you will be attending. Covenant groups are one means of forming a deeper connection within our Holy Covenant congregation. Any member of the congregation who would like to connect or re-connect with a group please let us know by contacting **Joy Decker, Phil Kaveler** or **Rev. Barbara**.

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder for April: Suzanne Lamorey, SuzLam@yahoo.com or 704-654-7267

Deacons for April: Martha Bomely, Lisa Sherman

Greeters: Carl Johnson, Phyllis Johnson

Ushers: Kelly Gimlin, JP Griffin, Susan Pascucci, Shakti Subramanian

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger, Renee Brown

Tabulators: Kelly Gimlin, Alice Phelan

Refreshments: Joy Decker, Kevin Decker, Debbie Davis, Ann Watkins

Recyclers: Kristin Andes, Tom Magraw

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Meg Houlilan, Claire and Elena, & Tom Lannin in the death of Meg's father.
Susan Bennett Stiles, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Cindy Coble, Linn Finger, Laura Hankins, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Yami Senturias, Ed Sharp, Caroline Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Bill Funderburk, Kim Hobbs (Melissa Noll), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George & Judy Jongeling (Darline Warren), Judah Jones, Pauline McCowan (Martha Bomely), Beth Poyer Meyer, Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Becky Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Norma Thomas (Barbara Thomas), Gary & Wanda Gilbert West (John Rapp), Jason Wingard (Cynthia Simpson)

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor

Rev. Barbara Thomas, Interim Minister for Church & Family Life

Mrs. Cheri Dennis, Ministry Intern

Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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