

# The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



Richmond, Virginia, U.S., April 16, 2020. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque

## May 3, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter

## PRELUDE

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need We transition into our sacred time together arranged by Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir

## \*CHIMING THE TRINITY

as our music invokes the spirit of God.

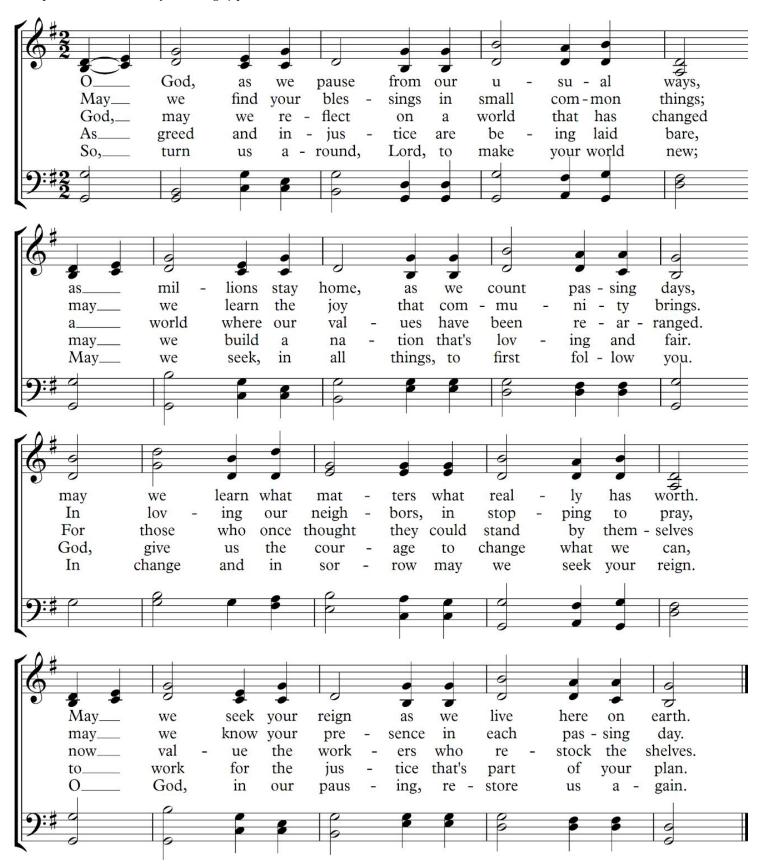
We call forth God the Creator, Savior and Holy Spirit in musical tones.

\* means we invite you to rise in body and spirit.

We lift our voices, bodies, minds

Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

and spirits as a community in a song of praise.



## \*CALL TO WORSHIP by Joana Harader

We set our intention for worship with this call and response.

One: In the darkest valley,
All: At the banquet table;
One: In the hard work of life,
All: At the moments of ease;
One: In our day-to-day reality,

All: At times set aside— One: Like this time, now—

All: For worship, for listening, for paying attention;

One: With every step we take:

All: Goodness and mercy follow us; our cups overflow.

#### EASTER ACCLAMATION

We celebrate the arrival of Easter, the Day of Christ's Resurrection.

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### GREETINGS

Kent French and Amy Norton

Justin Yang

We warmly welcome all into our midst.

Senior and Associate Pastors

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

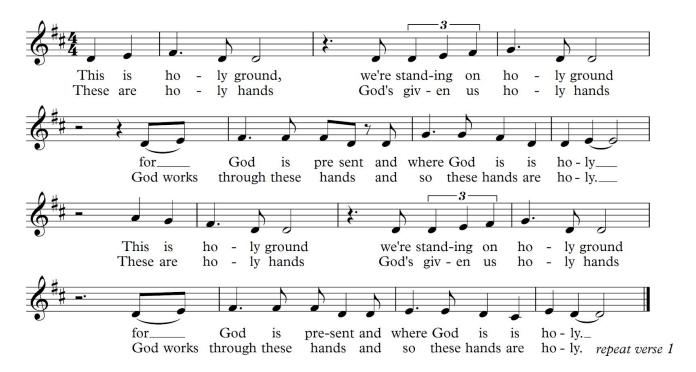
## CENTERING PRAYER in unison

We center ourselves in the awareness of God's presence.

God of Love, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We prepare for confession with music.



### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy Norton Associate Pastor

Together, we confess the ways we have gotten out of step with God and seek to re-center ourselves in the Love of God.

Loving and compassionate God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid.

We confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in one another, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We turn away from the harm that enslaves us, the harm we have done and the harm done on our behalf.

Forgive us, restore and strengthen us, we pray.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit

that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name...

#### SILENT CONFESSION

We continue praying in silence for up to one minute for our personal confessions and spiritual centering.

One: O God, in your compassion;

All: Hear our prayer.

- \*Assurance of Pardon We receive the Good News that we are loved, forgiven and renewed in God's presence.
- \*The Peace We share the Good News among ourselves with words of Peace and Love, while we shake hands, hug, fist bump, rub elbows, or bow to one another.

One: The Peace of Christ and the Love of God be with you always;

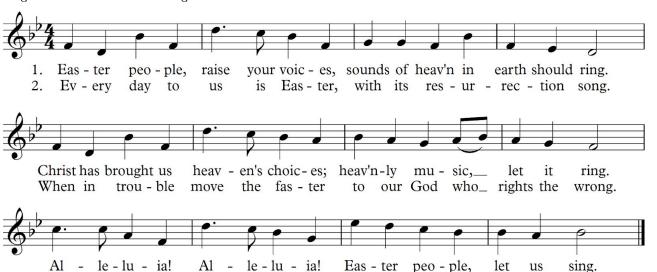
All: And also with you.

### \*PEACE RESPONSE

Easter People Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

We re-gather with our voices in song.



### READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Al - le - lu - ia!

Acts 5:1-11

le - lu - ia!

Amalia and Theodora Rodine

throngs.

See the pow'r of heav'n-ly

We reflect together on these words from the ministry of early Church, the followers of Jesus, the people of The Way.

One: For the Good News of the Holy Spirit,

A1 -

All: Thanks be to God!

#### Message

poetry and song.

Amy Norton

We reflect together on how the Word of God plays out in our lives.

Associate Pastor

**SUNG RESPONSE**We reflect on the message though

I'm Gonna Lift My People Up by Faya Rose Toure

Helen Hassinger, Nick Duffin Josaphat Contreras Kristen Murdaugh

arranged by Mary Alice and Peter Amidon

All Sing: I'm gonna lift my sibling up, they are not heavy, (3x) If I don't lift them up (3x) I will fall down.

I'm gonna lift my neighbor up, they are not heavy...

I'm gonna lift the stranger up, they are not heavy...

I'm gonna lift my people up, they are not heavy...

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray together for our congregation, our surrounding community, the nation and the world.

Amy Norton and Jaz Buchanan Associate Pastor and Seminarian

One: O God, hear our prayer; All: And guide us in your love.

**LORD'S PRAYER** We say together the prayer Jesus taught us. We invite you to use your chosen words for God: Father, Mother, Abba, Allah or . . .

Our Creator, 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 trespasses,

As we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

**OFFERING** We offer our gifts for God's service and our visitor cards. No gift is too small or too large. All are precious.

**Invitation**We hear from community members about why they take part.

Arielle Chernin
Thanksgiving Meal Coordinator

Offertory Anthem
We offer our gifts as musicians offer songs of praise and thanksgiving.

The Storm is Passing Over by Charles Tindley arranged by Barbara Baker Youth Choir, 2008 from the CD "Sing 'til the Power of the Lord Come Down"

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on. The night is young, and I am far from home. Thanks be to God, the morning light appears. The storm is passing over, hallelujah.

\*Doxology Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

We re-join our voices in thanksgiving.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## THE FEAST OF COMMUNION liturgy adapted from Maren Tirabassi

We remember the last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples, receiving spiritual sustenance and re-membering ourselves

as the living body of Christ.

#### Invitation

We welcome all to the table, regardless of belief.

## Prayer of Consecration unison

Together we consecrate the elements of communion, celebrating our connection in the Spirit.

Gentle Host, you prepare a table before us

in the threatening presence of virus.

You anoint our hearts, bless our bread

and our cups overflow.

Surely as we shelter in place we find both the goodness of community

and mercy to those most vulnerable.

Now and all the days of our lives we claim that this house —

these many houses where we dwell

and also our precious church building,

are, indeed, the house of God.

Send your Spirit of life and love,

power and blessing upon your children who are staying

at home so that this Bread may be broken

and gathered in love

and this Cup poured out to give hope to all.

Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you.

Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you. Amen.

## Sharing the Meal

Together we share this holy meal, re-membering ourselves as the living body of Christ.

One: Let us in our many sanctuaries receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

Many: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

One: Let us in our many sanctuaries receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

Many: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We pray in thanksgiving to God for the gifts of communion, forgiveness, and love.

One: Let us pray in thanksgiving for this meal of grace, rejoicing that,

in the holy dispersion of virtual worship,

we claim the risen Christ's love is not limited

by buildings made with human hands,

nor contained in human ceremonies,

and celebrating the God's shepherding that carries us into the unknown, to listen and follow, to lead and be led, to feed and be fed.

## All:

## Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us Helen Hassinger, Kristen Murdaugh, Nick Duffin, Josaphat Contreras

Savior, like a shepherd, lead us, much we need your tender care. In your pleasant pastures feed us for our use your folds prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

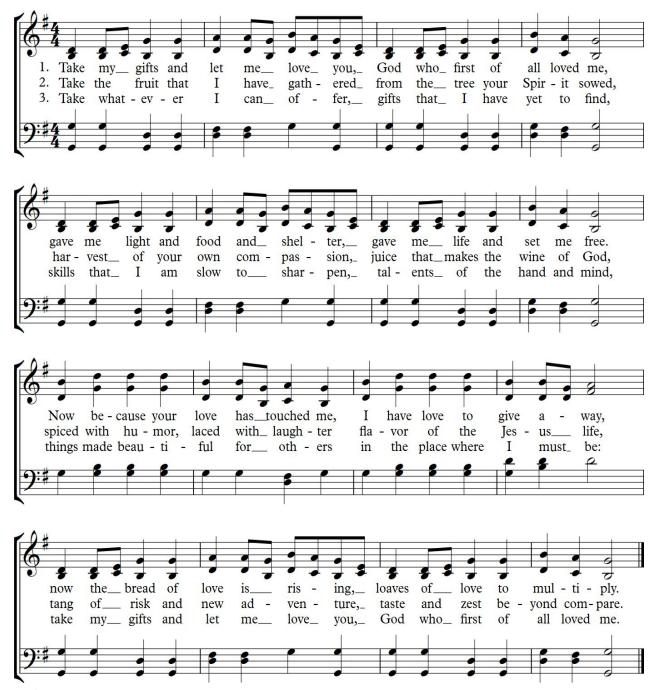
\*CLOSING HYMN

Take My Gifts

#562 HOLY MANNA The DeSelms Family

Bradbury

Together in song, we set our intention leaving this sacred space.
We invite you to sing, speak or silently read the words together.



#### HOLY BUSINESS

We share news of God's work in our community's activities.

## \*Benediction

We receive a blessing as we prepare to depart this sacred gathering.

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

God is Watching Over You

United Parish Carolers from the CD "I Am a Promise" Melanie Hsu Chernin, soloist

# Please join us immediately after worship for **Virtual Coffee Hour** on Zoom, <a href="https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84842579564?pwd=dVVEToIrL3JIRUVUbVpiZDk3VjdYUTo9">https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84842579564?pwd=dVVEToIrL3JIRUVUbVpiZDk3VjdYUTo9</a>

Meeting ID: 848 4257 9564 Password: 310695 Or call 646-558-8656

Remember to sign up for **all-parish news**: contact office@upbrookline.org to join the mailing list.

If you haven't already, please sign up for **Realm**, our **online church directory**.

It's the best way to stay connected with our community.

<a href="https://www.unitedparishbrookline.org/sign-up-for-the-church-online-photo-directory">https://www.unitedparishbrookline.org/sign-up-for-the-church-online-photo-directory</a>

## WELCOME

We at the United Parish in Brookline believe that all people are made in the image of God and embrace and cherish every person and every kind of family. Jesus Christ welcomed everyone; we seek to follow his example in our own life and worship, by extending God's love and grace abundantly and equally to everyone. We affirm and welcome all people to share in worship, fellowship and leadership with us, to join us in a diversity of race, gender, sexual identity, physical and mental ability, ethnicity and economic means.

We have joined with other Open and Affirming (United Church of Christ) and Welcoming and Affirming (American Baptist Churches USA), as well as with the Reconciling Ministries Network (United Methodist Churches) to declare that we are and will remain open to all people.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of the United Parish family. You may become a member by transferring membership or by a statement of faith. If you desire to retain ties with a former church, we invite you to become an associate or affiliate member for the time you are with us.

We ask that you silence all electronic devices. Please see an usher if you would like a hearing assistive device.

Because our building is open to the public, an adult should accompany children if/when they leave the worship service.

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Seminarian
Minister of Music
Assistant Music Director
Communications and Office Administrator
Facilities Manager
Building Usage Coordinator
Accounting Administrator
Nursery Supervisor
Pastor Emerita

The People of the United Parish
Kent French
Amy Norton
Jasmine Buchanan
Susan DeSelms
Josaphat Contreras
Sarah Fitzpatrick
David Dunphy
Helen Hassinger
Donald Firth
Jenna Bergquist
Patricia Coughlin



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