



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER April 19, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Mystical Prelude on "O Sons and Daughters"
Marty Franklin

Cooman

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Followers of Jesus, by his cross we are redeemed from the futility of sin.

All: Alleluia!

One: By his rising we are free from the fear of death.

All: Alleluia!

One: By his love we are made new in the living and enduring Word of God.

All: Alleluia! Let us worship God!

***Hymn (#404)**

What Is This Place

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, Our world is filled with corruption: power disguises itself as truth; convenience masquerades as goodness; selfish pleasure imitates love. We confess to you, O God, that we have been caught in the web of the world's sin.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, save us from these deceptions and free us for glad obedience, that we may see the joy of Jesus' resurrection and receive the promise of everlasting life. (Silence)

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Followers of Jesus! God has promised salvation to us,
to our children, and to all who are near and far.
So let us declare the good news of the gospel!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

***Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace**

***Congregational Response (#243, sing 2x)**

Be Not Afraid

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen alleluia!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination (#246, v. 5)

Christ Is Alive!

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

First Scripture Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Anthem

Because He Lives!

arr. Schrader

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 24:13-35

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Sermon

Opening

Rev. R.C. Griffin III



WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

Ordination & Installation of Elders

***Affirmation of Faith**

from the *Confession of Belhar*

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. That this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

***Hymn (#232)**

Day of Arising

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Sharilyn Owens

Offertory

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Daub

***Congregational Response (#709)**

God, We Honor You

*God, we honor you. God, we trust in you. God, we worship and adore you.
Take what we bring, offered to you. Teach us to show your abundant blessings.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Almighty God,
by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives.

All: **Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with our risen Lord,
who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#737)**

Lod Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

***Charge & Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

Because He Lives!

Arr. Schrader

***Postlude**

Postlude on "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing"

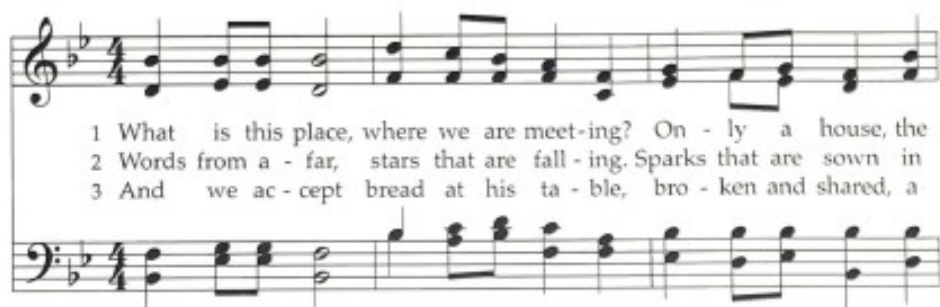
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***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

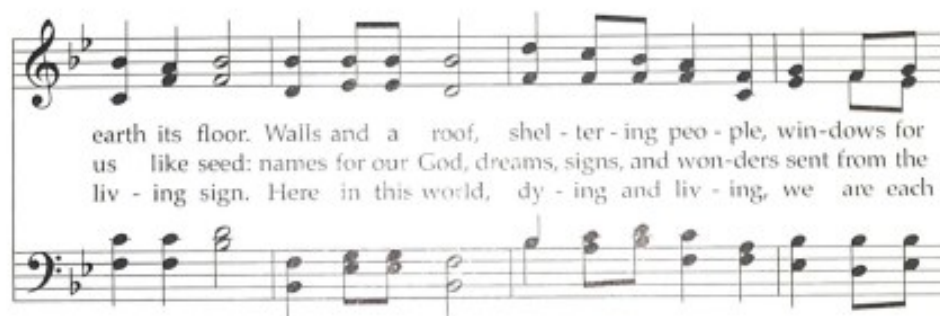


Scan for bulletin info,
news, and more!

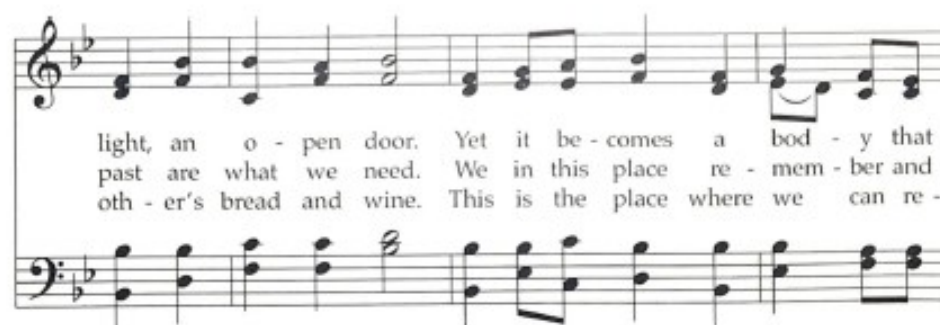
What Is This Place



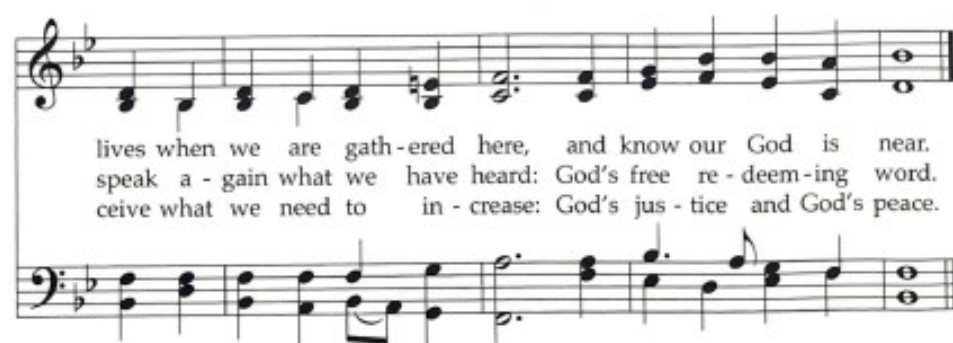
1 What is this place, where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, Sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at his ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof, shel - ter - ing peo - ple, win-dows for
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs, and won-ders sent from the
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing, we are each



light, an o - pen door. Yet it be - comes a bod - y that
 past are what we need. We in this place re - mem - ber and
 oth - er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re -



lives when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 speak a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
 ceive what we need to in - crease: God's jus - tice and God's peace.

This text by a 20th-century Jesuit beautifully captures the fundamental truth that "church" is not primarily the building but the people who come together in order to be nourished by Word and Table so that they may show forth Christ's redeeming presence in the world.

Be Not Afraid

243

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!"

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

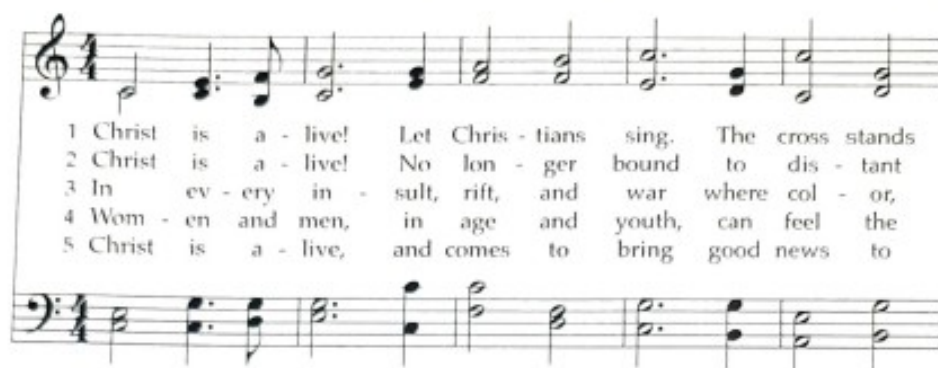
Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as "Nebojte se." The English version uses the language of the angel's greeting to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5-6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID
4.4.8.D

Christ Is Alive!

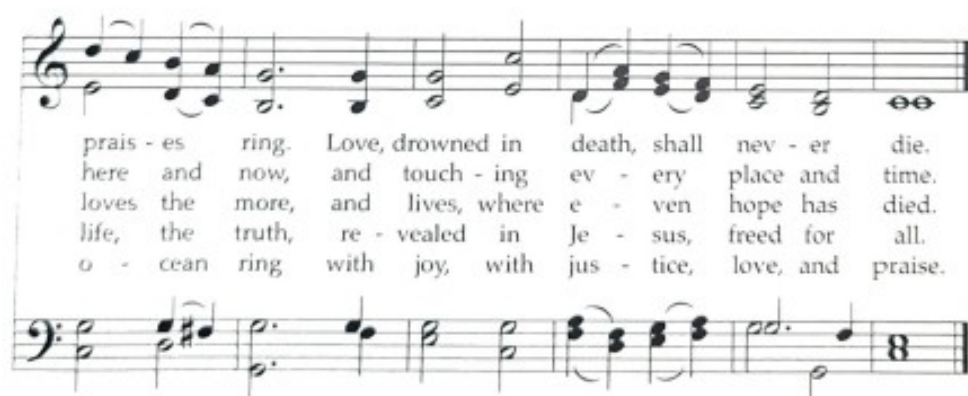
246



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - every age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - every place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

Capo 1: (Esus)

(E)

(B)

(E)

Fsus

F

C

F



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way, un - known com -

2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing, blind - ed by

3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken. This is Christ's

4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney, bread of com -

(A⁺maj7)(F⁺m7)

(B7)

(Esus)

(E)

B⁺maj7

Gm7

C7

Fsus

F



pan - ion walks with his own. When they in - vite him,

sad - ness, slow - ness of heart, yet Christ walks with us,

prom - ise, this is Christ's sign: when the church gath - ers,

pas - sion, o - pen our eyes. Grant us your vi - sion,

(B)

(E)

(A⁺maj7)

(B7)

(E)

C

F

B⁺maj7

C7

F



as fades the first day, and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.

ev - er a - wait - ing our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.

when bread is bro - ken, there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.

set all hearts burn - ing that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Based on Luke 24:13-35, this text tells how Christ walked with two dejected believers on the way to Emmaus. This journey reminds us of our own spiritual wanderings, and the revelation of the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread gives us hope for such an encounter in worship.

TEXT: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1996

MUSIC: Carl F. Schalk, 1999

Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

RAABE

5.5.5.4.D

God, We Honor You

God, we hon - or you. God, we trust in you.

God, we wor - ship and a - dore you.

Take what we bring, of - fered to you.

Teach us to show your a - bun - dant bless - ings.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, a - men.

**May be sung as a canon.*

This offertory acclamation was created by a Mennonite musician and draws on the simplicity and strength of a tradition accustomed to unaccompanied singing. When sung as a canon, this acclamation simultaneously voices praises of God, prayers to God, and allelulias.

737 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

Jésus, je voudrais te chanter



1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

I'll tell ev - ery - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - ily you saved by your love,

Originally created in French, this text reflects the ministry of a Roman Catholic religious community, the Little Sisters of Jesus, who work with people on the margins of society. This hymn is also beloved by the Ark (L'Arche) communities who minister to adults with disabilities.

TEXT: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community, 1961; English trans. Stephen Somerville, 1970
 MUSIC: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community, 1961
 Text and Music: © Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus (admin. Augsburg Fortress)
 English Trans. © 1970 Stephen Somerville (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

LES PETITES SOEURS
 12.14.12.12

Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

FRENCH

- 1 *Jésus, je voudrais te chanter sur ma route;
 Jésus, je voudrais t'annoncer à mes voisins partout,
 car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'amour;
 Jésus, je voudrais te chanter sur ma route.*
- 2 *Jésus, je voudrais te louer sur ma route;
 Jésus, je voudrais que ma voix soit l'écho de ta joie,
 et que chante la terre et que chante le ciel;
 Jésus, je voudrais te louer sur ma route.*
- 3 *Jésus, je voudrais te servir sur ma route;
 Jésus, je voudrais partager les souffrances de ta croix,
 car tu livres pour moi et ton corps et ton sang;
 Jésus, je voudrais te servir sur ma route.*
- 4 *Jésus, je voudrais tout au long de ma route
 entendre tes pas résonner dans la nuit près de moi,
 jusqu'à l'aube du jour où ton peuple sauvé,
 Jésus, chantera ton retour sur ma route.*