

## RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

### **Invitation to Offering:** – *Discipleship Ministries*

God of great blessing, but even greater lessons, remind us again who gives life and who receives it. Sometimes, like Job, we need to have our questioning answered with a lesson – we need to learn that we are not the ones in charge in the universe. The gifts we bring this morning are not a down payment toward future favor, but a token of a debt we will never be able to repay. May we gain wisdom in the giving, and may these gifts be blessed for your glory, not ours. In Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem:** “Lord of the Dance” *Shaker Melody, arr. by Joel Raney, Kyle LaFleur and Dr. Bruce Glenny*

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** (see insert)

**Music During Communion:** Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life” UMH# 164

**\*Hymn:** “Easter People, Raise Your Voices” UMH# 304

### **Benediction**

**Postlude:** Carillon on "Easter Hymn" from "An Easter Suite" Gordon Young

---

### **We thank those who participated in today's service:**

**Accompanist:** Steve Hays

**Acolytes:** Adeline and Anja Berke and Sam Crawford

**Altar Ministry:** Deb Garth and Kathy Hathaway

**Carillonneur:** Thomas St. Marie

**Communion Servers:** Vera Baker, Berney & Shonali Bhajjan and Ann Guyotte

**Fellowship Hour:** Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) and volunteers

**Flutist:** Kyle LaFleur

**Liturgist:** Hope Lewis

**Ushers:** Head Usher; Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, Clayton Calhoun

**Video Team:** Brian Crawford, Eric Mazzarella, Jack Rust, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

---

**Please Pray for:** Bridget B, James B, Janet B, Meri B, Natalie B, Mary C, Pat D, David F, Sophia G, Donna G, Courtney H, Dave J, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Arlene M, Carlos M, Pat N, Les P, Rev. Dr. Bob P, Catherine Ann R, Shawn R, Jen R, Jim S, Carl S, Ruth S, Lynn T, Tina W, Allie W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

## **Trinity United Methodist Church**

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

[www.trinityspringfield.org](http://www.trinityspringfield.org) ▪ 413-737-5311

*Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton*

*District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe*

*Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Bruce Glenny*

*Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun*

*Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell, M.Div*

*Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern*



*Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.*

---



**Celebrate** God's love

**Nurture** relationships with God and one another

**Serve** our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

## Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

10:30 a.m.

### WELCOME

We worship using this liturgy & two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) & The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence your electronic devices. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years.

\*Please stand in body or in spirit. **Items in bold are read in unison.** *Items italicized are sung by the choir.*

### WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

“Christ and pride cannot coexist in one’s heart: where there is pride, there is no Christ, and vice versa.”

– St. Nicodemus the Hagiomite

### Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude:** Fanfare, from “An Easter Suite” Gordon Young (1919-1998)

**Introit:** “Christ is Risen”

*Christ is Risen! Alleluia, Love's redeeming work is done. All Creation sings His praises,  
Christ the resurrected Son. Sorrow gone, sweet joy abounding, God's great pow'r is on display,  
Christ is Risen! Alleluia, Love and Light have won the day.*

**\*Call to Worship:** -Roger D. Straw, in *Flames of Spirit: Resources for Worship*, Ruth Duck, ed, Pilgrim Press, 1985, 60.

Leader: God created the heavens and the earth.

**People: And gave them to us to use and enjoy.**

Leader: And God breathed life into each of us, and set us on the earth.

**People: And God sent Jesus Christ to save us from the pull of death.**

Leader: Everything that fills our souls with gladness and light is a gift from the loving Creator.

**People: We have been entrusted with unfathomable riches. For all this our God is to be praised. Let us worship God together!**

**\*Hymn:** “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” UMH# 312

**\*Unison Prayer of the Morning:** Kwasi I. Kena, *The Africana Worship Book for Year A, Discipleship Resources*, 2007, 40.

Lord, you know how many times I *thought* I knew...how to run my life...how to fix *their* problems, and how *you* should answer prayer. But each time, through trauma or tragedy, hardship or hard times, you remind me how much I *don't* know about your will. Though I may not like it at the time, please remind me that you are God, and I am not. Ask me questions I can't answer. Give me answers I can't comprehend. Remind me that *you* laid the earth's foundation. That *you* speak and the winds obey. That *you* squeeze the clouds 'til rain falls. Then give me the good sense to hold my peace and meditate on what you've just said. Amen.

**\*Response:** “Now the Green Blade Riseth” (vv. 1 & 3) UMH# 311

**Verse 1:** Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

**Verse 3:** Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain,  
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;  
quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

**Anthem:** “I know That My Redeemer Lives” text based on Job 19:25-26 & I Corinthians 13:12,  
music by Craig Courtney

*I know that my Redeemer lives, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though my body be destroyed, yet in flesh shall I see God. Alleluia, Alleluia. I know that my Redeemer lives. Now we see in a glass dimly, but then, face to face; now I know in part, but then I shall know as I am known. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

### Passing the Peace of Christ

### Children’s Moment

### Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

### The Lord’s Prayer:

**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 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. Amen.**

**Prayer Response:** “Hear our Prayer, O Lord”

*Hear our prayer, O Lord; hear our prayer, O Lord; Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.  
I want Jesus, O Lord, to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

**\*Hymn** “Praise the Source of Faith and Learning” TFWS# 2004  
(*Please Note: No Chapel Kids on Communion Sunday.*)

**Old Testament Scripture Reading:** Job 38:1, 4-7, 34-38 (NRSV) pp. 458-459

**New Testament Scripture Reading:** John 20: 19-31 (NRSV) pp. 108-109

### Response to the Word:

**One:** The Word of God for the People of God.

**Many:** Thanks be to God!

**Sermon:** “It's Hard to Make a Rainbow” Rob Powell, M.Div.