

A photograph of several yellow tulips in bloom, with green leaves and stems. The background is a clear blue sky with some blurred yellow flowers in the distance. The tulips are the main focus, with one in the foreground being particularly sharp.

# **EASTER SUNDAY**

North Church of  
Portsmouth

**North Church of Portsmouth**  
*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

**March 31, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

***Easter Sunday***

PRELUDE                                      Now the Green Blade Rises                                      Traditional

WORDS OF WELCOME

We welcome back Gay Adams, violin, for our special service today!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: He is Risen!

**All: He is Risen, Indeed!**

One: We gather together to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ: what once was dead is alive again.

**All: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

One: We gather together to proclaim the truth: that death has lost its sting, that Jesus Christ is alive again and alive in us to this very day.

**All: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

One: We celebrate this morning that God's love is alive and well in our hearts and in our lives. We celebrate on this Resurrection Day God is bringing all of us into the full bloom of life with Christ.

**All: Alleluia! Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.  
And also with you.  
Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace

\*OPENING HYMN                                      Christ the Lord is Risen Today                                      #288  
*(music and words in blue hymnal)*

GOD-WINKS

\*HYMN                                      The Day of Resurrection                                      #298  
*(music and words in blue hymnal)*

\*Indicates those who are able may stand

## SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Trust the Joy

Rev. Jennifer Mazur

MUSIC MEDITATION

Lamb of God

T. Paris

TIME OF PRAYER—*Candlelighting*

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 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.**

SONG OF PRAYER

Your gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned him as he died.  
The humble King they named a fraud, and sacrificed the Lamb of God.  
Your matchless power, your love and might has raised him from the depth of night  
And shown a path that He has trod and welcomes us to be with God.  
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O wash me in His precious blood--my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

Rondeau

J. J. Mouret

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, you keep your promises to us and to all people. Help us to use these gifts to  
honor our covenants of mission, ministry and love. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns  
*(music and words in blue hymnal)*

#317

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (remain seated)

Jig Fugue

D. Buxtehude

\*\*\*\*\*



\*Indicates those who are able may stand

# *North Church Welcomes You*

We are glad that you are worshiping here today.

If you seek a church home in Portsmouth, we hope that you will return to worship with us again. The tear off form on this bulletin filled out and placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher or the pastor, will help us to know you better as we serve God together.

*On this day and all days we keep Marondera Church, our Ukama partner in Zimbabwe in our prayers.*

## *Worship* **SCHEDULE**

**All Worship services  
begin at 10:00 am**

**Sunday, April 7**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
*The Sacrament of Communion  
will be Celebrated*

**Sunday, April 14**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday, April 21**  
**Fouth Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday, April 28**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**



Happy Easter, beloved of God!

This is the day the Lord has made, and it is the day on which we proclaim: Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen, Indeed! We celebrate today that nothing in all the world can stop the love of God. No power, no wealth, no tragedy, no fear, no stain of death, not even the grave can stop God's life-giving, resurrecting love. Alleluia, indeed.

As we worship together today, we give thanks for God's faithfulness. We remember and give thanks that God's love surpasses even our wildest expectations. God's love can - and does - make all things new. When Jesus was killed by the Roman empire, they thought that his ministry was finished, that death and power and might had the final word. But we gather today to celebrate that God's love has the final word, each and every time.

Easter is not just a day, but an entire season called Eastertide. Over the next forty days of Eastertide, we are invited to place our trust in God's love, and in God's ability to bring resurrection light to our lives. So I wonder, friends: What in your life needs to be made new? Where are you hoping God's love might enter in and change things? What part of your heart has gone dormant, but needs to come alive again?

My favorite thing about the stories after Jesus' resurrection, is the way his friends gather. They come together again and again to make sense of what they've seen, to rejoice, to wonder, to doubt, to pray. They stick together, they bring new people in, they tell the story of what God has done.

This Eastertide, I pray we will tell the story, that we will walk together on the road to new life, to transformation, to even more resurrection.

Love,  
Pastor Jenn



## Easter Flowers Given By



*Betty Gilman*

*In celebration of her family*

*Barb Bolko*

*In memory of her brother Bud*

*Gay Adams*

*In celebration of her family*

*Betsy and Pete Kinner*

*In memory of Gilbert & Margaret Kinner;  
and Albert & Eleanor Horton*

*Gail Darrow*

*In celebration of her family*

*Gloria Wennberg, wife and  
grandchildren Nicholas and  
Isabella Vogt*

*In memory of husband/grandfather Jon*

*Gloria Wennberg and children  
Nicholas and Isabella Vogt*

*In memory of daughter/mother Heather Joy  
Wennberg-Vogt*

*Gloria Wennberg*

*In memory of parents William and Mary Dike*

*Caroline McMullen*

*In memory of parents Dr. and Mrs. Clarence  
Isaacson and brother Henry C. Isaacson*

*Karen and David May*

*In memory of their cat Maggie, Joan and John  
May and Jeanne and Bob Jones*

*June Lurvey*

*In memory of her parents*

*Tracy Lapointe*

*In memory of her brother Brent Squires, and  
parents Sylvia and Squeak Squires. In  
celebration of Darren LaPointe and his  
graduation from Medical School.*

*Brian & Ellen Ridgeway*



Please note the North Church office will be closed and staff will be off on Easter Monday.

### **Seafarer's Friend Ditty Bags - Preview**



We will be collecting items to fill ditty bags for the Seafarer's Friend during the months of March and April. The goal is to fill 10 ditty bags. If you would like to get a head start on gathering some items, here are the things they need:

Razors	Shave cream/gel	Floss
Toothpaste	Toothbrush (1)	Travel sized Kleenex
Playing cards	Mending kits	Shoelaces
Deodorant	Shampoo (8 oz. size)	Travel-size first aid kit
Nail clippers	Soap/body wash (8 oz. size)	Small writing pad
Socks (2 pair per bag max)	Puzzle Books	Knit hat
1-2 pens or pencils	Feminine Hygiene Products	Chapstick



EASTER

## 288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The melody is in G major, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures, notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Lives a - gain our glo-rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

All cre - a - tion, join to say Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fol-lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri-umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.  
MUSIC: *Lyrta Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN  
7.7.7.7. Alleluia

EASTER

298

## The Day of Resurrection!

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth its song be - gin!

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;  
The world re - sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and, lis - ening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend;

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "all hail" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our Joy that has no end.

WORDS: John of Damascus, 8th c.; tr. John M. Neale (1818-1866)  
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart (1813-1879)

LANCASHIRE  
7.6.7.6.D.

ASCENSION

## 317 Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.  
2 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave,  
3 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,  
4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

Hark! how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;  
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied;  
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
his glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,  
no an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

WORDS: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) and Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)  
MUSIC: George J. Elvey (1816-1893)

DIADEMATA  
S.M.D.

*North Church of Portsmouth*  
*United Church of Christ*



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