

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR APRIL 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

Video of this worship service can be found at:

<https://www.fupchurch.org/> or
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA1yVuDdFJrhYsmJ0TyI8UA/videos>

TOLLING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Michael Springer

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

Aloha. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Pastor Chris. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, I want to welcome you to First United Protestant Church of Hilo. I am grateful you have decided to join us for worship today. Today's worship service explores the power of what it means to be a witness for who Jesus Christ is in the world.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Risen One has come alongside us on our journey out of the empty tomb.

All: He speaks to us of love and encouragement. He shares a liberating word that frees us from our sorrows.

He was once a guest among us, but now he has become the host.

All: He makes himself known to us today through acts of love, grace, and mercy. He is known to us through the power of witness.

Let us celebrate the promise of this new life to be lived, for Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

HYMN

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

NCH #347

PEACE READING

Our peace reading for today comes from Rev. Brian Beckstead, who is a pastor, author, and speaker. He says,

"You teach of Christ, preach of Christ, bear witness of Christ, talk like Christ but you sure do not Walk the walk of the Christ! If you believe in Christ and call yourself a Christian...your actions should show it!"

SCRIPTURE READING

Our Scripture reading for today comes from the Gospel of Luke 24:35-48 (NLT), where Jesus appears to the disciples after the resurrection....

³⁵ Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread. ³⁶ And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ³⁷ But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!

³⁸ "Why are you frightened?" he asked. "Why are your hearts filled with doubt? ³⁹ Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do." ⁴⁰ As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

⁴¹ Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he ate it as they watched.

⁴⁴ Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. ⁴⁷ It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of all these things.

Liturgist: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Fitness in Witness"

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

GIFT OF MUSIC

"Turn Your Eyes"

By George Romanacce, Helen H. Lemmel, Kevin Winebarger

Solo by Joanne Pocsidio

Accompaniment by Michael Springer

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Moment of Silence

Prayer of the Day

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 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.**

OFFERTORY

Now is our time of offering. If you have been spiritually nourished by today's worship service, I want to encourage you to prayerfully consider supporting the work and ministry of the church through a tithe or donation. **Last week we received a total of \$860.25 to support the work and ministry of the church.** Please visit our website to see the multiple ways you can give to the church during this time such as through our Facebook Page, PayPal, ChurchTrac, or by simply writing a check to the church. Let us join in a prayer of dedication for all that we will receive.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: With hearts of praise, O Lord, we dedicate to you these gifts as tokens of our lives and work. Use them, as you use us, to help fulfill your purposes for all of creation, so that we might give glory to you not only in the hearing of your word, but in the doing of your word. Amen.

DOXOLOGY HMYN

**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.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

LOVING RESPONSE

"O Kou Aloha No"

The Queen's Prayer

O kou a-lo-ha no, A i-a i ka La-ni

A o kou oiai'o, He he-mo-le-le ho'i. Amene.
[Translation: Your love is in heaven and your truth so perfect.]

POSTLUDE

Michael Springer