



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024
Eleven o'clock

There's another sense in which [friendships] slide up more intimately alongside one another than can any lives that are moving forward according to the regular schedule of the generations. It is one another immediately, one another as the present fullness of a becoming whose arc may extend no further, whom we each must learn best to apprehend, fulfill, and bear company.

— Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick

Entrance

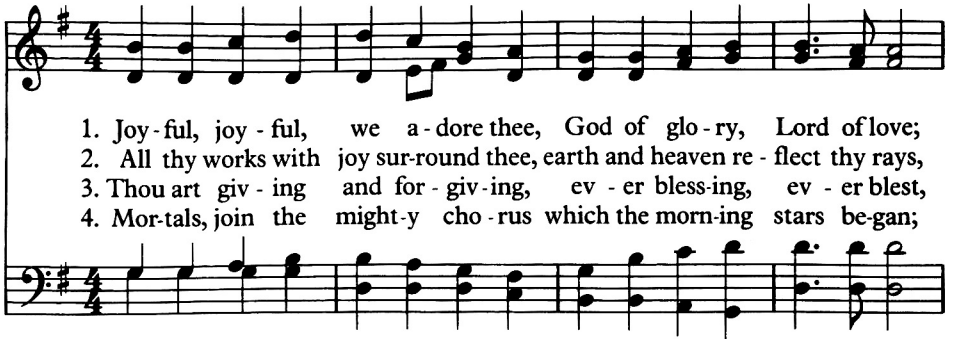
PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on "Christ Jesus lay in Death's Strong Grasp" J. S. Bach

WELCOME

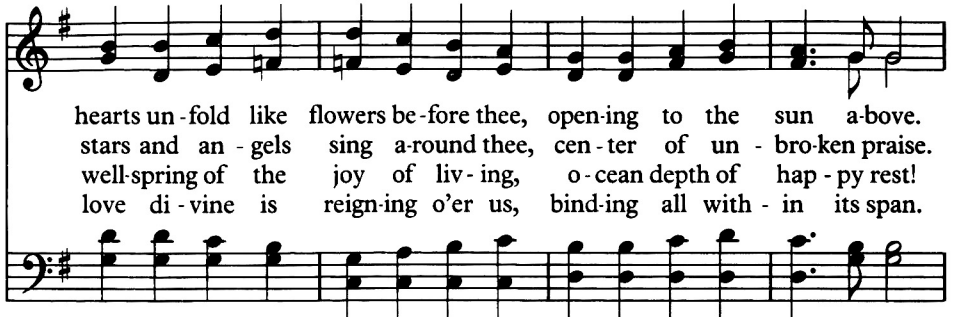
CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Christ gives us one commandment: to love one another.
People: **We abide together in the love of God!**
Minister: Christ calls us not his servants but his friends.
People: **We embody together the complete joy of Christ!**
Minister: Christ charges us to go and bear much fruit.
People: **We grow together in the light and love of God!**

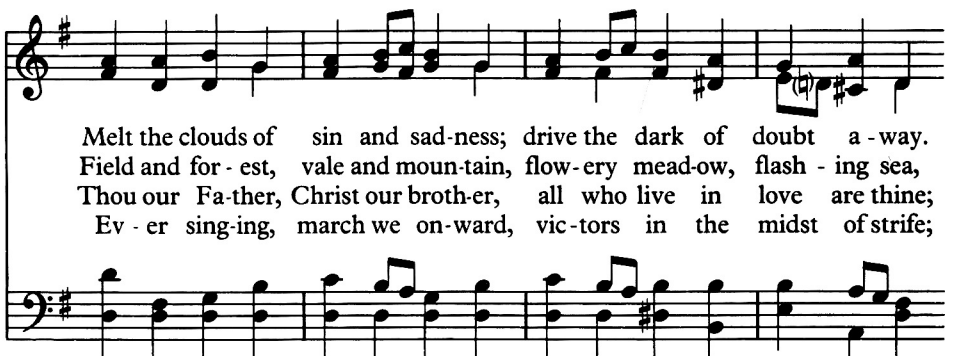
*HYMN Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



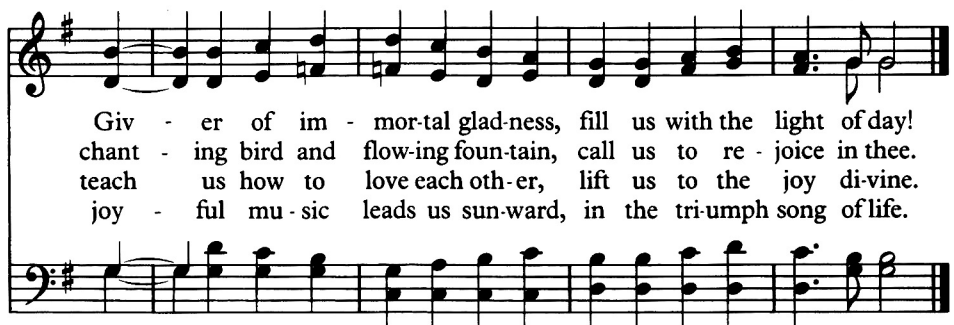
1. Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore thee, God of glo-ry, Lord of love;
2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re-lect thy rays,
3. Thou art giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blest,
4. Mor-tals, join the might-y cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;



hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, open-ing to the sun a-bove.
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!
love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, bind-ing all with-in its span.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flow-ery mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Thou our Fa-ther, Christ our broth-er, all who live in love are thine;
Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife;



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day!
chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth-er, lift us to the joy di-vine.
joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward, in the tri-umph song of life.

Words: Henry van Dyke, 1907
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

HYMN TO JOY

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Minister: We have been called to follow Christ
and love one another as he has loved us.
Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

People: **Loving God, we have not loved you
or each other with our whole hearts.
We choose to be stagnant where you call us to grow.
We choose to judge before we attempt to understand.
We harbor indifference and apathy for neighbors near and far.
Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness,
that we may be filled with your joy.**

Silent Prayer

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

This hymn found in our Methodist hymnal is the chorale upon which J. S. Bach based his Easter cantata of the same name some three-hundred years ago. Three movements from this youthful work serve as the principal music for today's worship service. The melody is complicated; please join in the singing as you are able or you may simply pray the text as the choir sings

Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for
our of - fens - es giv - en; but now at God's right
hand he stands, and brings us life from heav - en;
where - fore let us joy - ful be, and sing to
God right thank - ful - ly loud songs of Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Minister: Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us
and calls us his friends.

People: **If we can forgive our friends,
how much more does Christ forgive us! Amen!**

*THE PEACE

MINISTRY UPDATES

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jackie DeGroat

**Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, O God,
and withhold from us none of your wisdom,
so that we may understand your Word for us today. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, 10:44–48:

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM Christ Lay in Death's Strong Bands (*Cantata No. 4 for Easter Day*) J. S. Bach

Christ lay by Death enshrouded,
From mortal sin to save us;
He is arisen again,
Eternal life He gave us.
So now let us joyful be,
And magnify him joyfully,
Hallelujah!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, 15:9–17:

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1. God, whose love is reign-ing o'er us, source of all, the
 2. Word of God from na-ture bring - ing spring-time green and
 3. Ho - ly God of an-cient glo - ry, choos-ing man and
 4. Cove-nant, new a - gain in Je - sus, Star-child born to

end - ing true; hear the u - ni - ver - sal cho - rus
 au - tumn gold; moun-tain streams like chil - dren sing - ing,
 wom - an, too; A-br'am's faith and Sa - rah's sto - ry
 set us free; sent to heal us, sent to teach us

raised in joy - ful praise to you: Praise to you God,
 o - cean waves like thun - der bold: Praise to you God,
 formed a peo - ple bound to you. Praise to you God,
 how love's chil - dren we might be. Praise to you God,

Al - le - lu - ia, wor - ship an - cient, wor - ship new.
 Al - le - lu - ia, as cre - a - tion's tale is told.
 Al - le - lu - ia, to your cove - nant keep us true.
 Al - le - lu - ia, ris - en Christ, our Sav - ior he!

Words: William B. Grove, 1980
 Music: John Gross, 1869

LAUDA ANIMA

MESSAGE

"The Fruits of Friendship"

Rev. Tyler Heston

Responding

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends
 and to know your will in the world.
 We pray that our offerings may bear your fruit,
 so that the world may know your joy and love.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Katya Gruzglina, soprano & AddieRose Brown, mezzo-soprano

O Death, none could lay thee low,
 No child of man subdue thee;
 Our sin brought all this to pass,
 For there is no health in us.
 Therefore soon came Death,
 And threw over us his net,
 To hold us captive fast imprisoned
 [Until our Christ arose to save us.]
 Hallelujah.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you.

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth;

You formed us in your image

and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,

your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,

made covenant to be our sovereign God,

and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Sung to "Christ the Lord is Risen Today")

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of pow'r and God of might.
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
 Alleluia!
 Bless'd is he who comes in God's name,
 Alleluia!
 Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
 Alleluia!**

Minister: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 you gave birth to your Church,
 delivered us from sin and death,
 and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
 On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
 gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his friends and followers,
 and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his friends and followers, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
 poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
 Alleluia!
 Christ will come again to reign,
 Alleluia!**

Minister: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the friends of Christ, redeemed by his
blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**All: Amen. Amen;
Alleluia!
Amen, Amen;
Alleluia!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

*THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*All are welcomed at God's Table; gluten free bread is available, please inform the Communion server of your need;
de-alcoholized wine is used in our celebration of the Lord's Supper.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION For us the Easter Lamb was slain (*Cantata 4*) J. S. Bach

For us the Easter Lamb was slain,
God's promised boon bestowing.
He hung high upon the cross
With Love supernal glowing.
His blood sprinkled on our door
With faith bade Death to pass us ov'er.
[a reference to the Passover story when God told the Israelites through the word of Moses
to place the blood of a lamb on their doorpost
so the Angel of Death might pass over their house.]
The Slayer can no more harm us.
Hallelujah!

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to bear fruit as your friends,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Going Forth

*HYMN

I Come with Joy

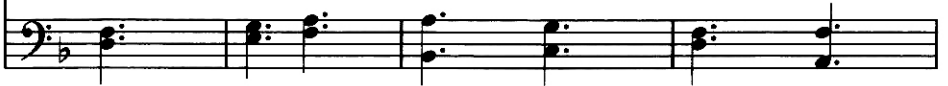
Unison



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for - giv - en,
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di -
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence,
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll go our



loved and free, in awe and won - der to re - call his
all are fed, the new com - mun - i - ty of love in
vi - sion ends. The love that made us makes us one, and
al - ways near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known; we
dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple in the world, we'll



life laid down for me, his life laid down for me.
Christ's com - mun - ion bread, in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
see and praise him here, we see and praise him here.
live and speak his praise, we'll live and speak his praise.



Words: Brain Wren, 1968

Music: The Southern Harmony, 1835

DOVE OF PEACE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Major (with an insertion from Théodore Dubois' Toccata in G)

J. S. Bach

Nido Workday - On Saturday, **May 11 (10am - 1pm)**, we will be meeting at Christ Church Washington Heights to help Nido with projects to set them up for the future of their work. Anything from helping organize their baby boutique to cleaning and renovating several spaces in their building.

Interfaith programming with Temple Emanu-El - Our neighbor Temple Emanu-El is offering a variety of programming opportunities to connect with folk from across faith traditions through dialogue groups about everything from meditation to making meals together. Christ Church NYC is partnering to host the monthly Queering the Bible & Beyond dialogue group; below is information about each of the upcoming opportunities. For more information, contact Dr. Alyssa Cady, Director of Center for Interfaith Dialogue, at Alyssa.Cady@emanuelnyc.org. For a full schedule please scan the QR code



Morning Prayer - Daily, **Monday through Friday at 8am**. Everyone is invited to join the Christ Church family for a short time of prayer and reflection each morning. Join the call via the events page on our website!

Children and Families - **Every Sunday** during the **11am** Service, preschool through fifth grade children are welcome to join us for Sunday School on the third floor. Nursery Care is available on the fifth floor.

Vacation Bible School at Christ Church! - Kids ages 3 to 11 are invited to join us, **August 26-30**, for a week long camp called Hero's Hotline. Our Heroes, the kids, will spring into action and explore the ultimate Hero Handbook, the Bible! We will discover how all Heroes can follow the examples set by a cast of Bible Heroes with stories from the Old and New Testaments. We will learn to work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us! All are welcome! More details to come. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, reach out to Lydia Prather, Lydia@christchurchnyc.org.

Sharing Table Outreach - Sharing Table serves a hot meal and toiletries to over 130 guests each week, and we always need new volunteers! A lead volunteer will give you an orientation on-site. Volunteers arrive at **3:00pm** to help make sandwiches and prepare for guests' arrival. Doors open to guests at 4:00pm and dinner is served at 4:30pm. If you'd like to sign up or get more information, please see our website!

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Christ Church Staff :

Ms. Roseann DeGennaro, Church Administrator

Dr. Steve Pilkington, Director of Music and Organist

Mr. Brandon Batson, Director of Communication and Program

Ms. Lydia Prather, Coordinator of Ministry for Children and Families

Mr. Robert Heckner, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Tyler Weakland, Director of the Bell Choir

Ms. Amanda Smith, Director of the Parish Choir and Children's Choir

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bauman, Senior Minister Emeritus

The Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister for Spiritual Formation & LGBTQIA+ Development

The Rev. Mickey Correa, Minister of Christ Church Washington Heights

The Rev. Dr. Eric Park, Senior Minister

The Mission of Christ Church

We seek to love God above all things, and our
neighbors as ourselves.

*Christ Church Is A Reconciling Congregation:
Open, Welcoming, And Affirming.*

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