

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Broadway United Church of Christ • April 28, 2024

Welcome to Broadway! We are grateful you could join us for worship this evening.

We use the \*\* symbol to indicate when to stand in body or in spirit.

Thanks so much!

Prelude

*Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2*

Jae Lee

Welcome

Rev. Rebecca Pridmore

\*\* Opening Hymn

*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

Rev. Vicki Moss, Cantor

1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,  
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom Christ died to love and save;  
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change

as Christ said and as Christ prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.  
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace the grave.  
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.

Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;  
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud - dled in an up - stairs room.  
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what Christ has been:

let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!  
Christ whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.  
ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

\*\* Please rise as  
you are able

One: What if all the ends of the Earth praised creation?

**All: What if all the nations remembered the planet and all its creatures?**

One: Would the poor eat and be satisfied?

**All: Would the inhabitants of the seas and the air thrive?**

One: Let this praise begin with us! Let this memory come alive in this space!

**All: May our worship serve the Earth, may our songs give glory to the Creator! Amen!**

### Exchange of Peace

### Gloria

#### *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

glo - ry to Christ whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

glo - ry to Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

### First Reading

#### Acts 8:26-40

Rebecca

An angel of God spoke to Philip and said, "Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes to Gaza, the desert road." So Philip began his journey. It happened that an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official in charge of the entire treasury of Candace, the ruler of Ethiopia, had come to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was returning home. He was sitting in his carriage and reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and meet that carriage." When Philip ran up, he heard the eunuch reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" "How can I," the eunuch replied, "unless someone explains it to me?" With that, he invited Philip to get in the carriage with him. This was the passage of scripture being read: "You are like a sheep being led to slaughter, you are like a lamb that is mute in front of its shearers: like them, you never open your mouth. You have been humiliated and have no one to defend you. Who will ever talk about your descendants, since your life on earth has been cut short?" The eunuch said to Philip, "Tell me, if you will, about whom the prophet is talking—himself or someone else?" So Philip proceeded to explain the Good News about Jesus to him. Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, there is some water right there. Is there anything to keep me from being baptized?" He ordered the carriage to stop; then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch didn't see him anymore, and went on his way rejoicing. Philip found himself at Ashdod next, and he went about proclaiming the Good News in all the towns, until he came to Caesarea.

One: This ends the Reading. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the world.

Anthem

What Does the Lord Require?

Choir

**\*\* Gospel Lesson**

John 15:1-8

Marie Zion

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

**All: We listen for a word from God.**

“I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vine grower who cuts off every branch in me that doesn’t bear fruit, but prunes the fruitful ones to increase their yield. You’ve been pruned already, thanks to the word that I have spoken to you. Live on in me, as I do in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, neither can you bear fruit apart from me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them will bear abundant fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. Those who don’t live in me are like withered, rejected branches, to be picked up and thrown on the fire and burned. If you live on in me, and my words live on in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Abba will be glorified if you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples.”

One: Hear this ancient witness from yesterday.

**All: May the Word become flesh in us today!**

**\*\* Song for Illumination**

*Hallelujah!*



Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah! Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah!



Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah! Halle - lujah! Hal-le-lu - jah!

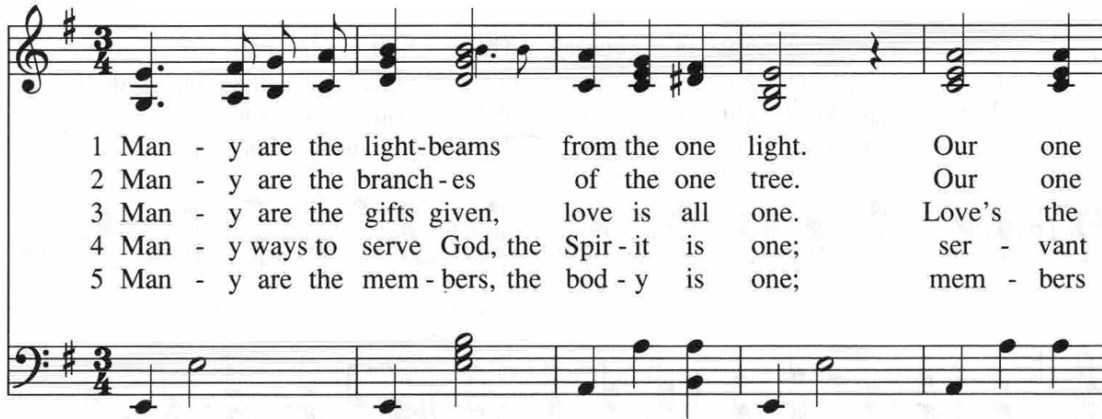
Sermon

How can I unless someone explains it to me?

Rene Slataper

Hymn for Reflection

Many Are the Lightbeams



1 Man - y are the light-beams from the one light. Our one  
2 Man - y are the branch-es of the one tree. Our one  
3 Man - y are the gifts given, love is all one. Love's the  
4 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one; ser - vant  
5 Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one; mem - bers



light is Je - sus. Man - y are the light-beams  
tree is Je - sus. Man - y are the branch-es  
gift of Je - sus. Man - y are the gifts given,  
spir - it of Je - sus. Man - y ways to serve God, the  
all of Je - sus. Man - y are the mem - bers, the



from the one light; we are one in Christ.  
of the one tree; we are one in Christ.  
love is all one; we are one in Christ.  
Spir - it is one; we are one in Christ.  
bod - y is one; we are one in Christ.

The Table of God

Please see the last 2 pages of the bulletin.

Offering / Announcements

Rebecca

**\*\* Hymn of Sending***Live into Hope*

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -  
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight  
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to  
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the  
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of  
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's  
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!  
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.  
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.  
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

**Benediction**

Rene

**Postlude***Amen, Amen!*

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.

***Worship has ended. Now let our service begin.***

Prelude "Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2": Johannes Brahms (1833-1897). Opening Hymn "Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers": WORDS John L. Bell & Graham Maule, 1988; MUSIC Welsh melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011. Call to Worship: adapted from Psalm 22. Gloria "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me": WORDS Trad. Liturgical text, adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008; MUSIC Paul M. Vasile, 2008. Scripture translations: *The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality*. Anthem "What Does the Lord Require?": WORDS Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984) *alt., para.* Micah 6:6-8; MUSIC Eric Nelson (b.1959). Song for Illumination "Alleluia": MUSIC Jacques Berthier (1982). Hymn for Reflection "Many Are the Lightbeams": WORDS Cyprian of Carthage, "De unitate ecclesiae," 252 C.E., Swedish paraphr. Anders Frostenson (1906-2006), Transl. David Lewis, 1983; MUSIC Olle Widestrand, (1932-2018); Arr. Darryl Nixon, 1987. Table of God © 2013 The United Church of Canada. Hymn of Sending "Live into Hope": WORDS Jane Parker Huber, 1976; MUSIC *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778. Postlude "Amen, Amen!": WORDS Trad. liturgical text; MUSIC African American; arr. Nelsie T. Johnson (1988).

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to worship at Broadway United Church of Christ, a congregation at the forefront of social justice movements since 1831. If this is your first visit, we are especially grateful you have chosen to spend your Sunday evening with us, and we invite you to write your email address on the back of your nametag, so we may write to you and invite you to come back. Pastor Rebecca would also love to answer any questions you might have about our community. Children are welcome in worship! Childcare is available for younger children with a little planning - please reach out to [vicki@broadwayucc.org](mailto:vicki@broadwayucc.org)

### MIDWEEK BREAK

Each Wednesday at noon ET, Pastor Rebecca leads a Zoom prayer and meditation gathering. You are welcome to pop in, stay as long as you can, take a break for a little community, wisdom, and silence. There is no need or pressure to take an hour out of the workday if that isn't easy for you. For more information, or to be added to the email list to receive the Zoom link, please send Rev. Pridmore an email at [rebecca@broadwayucc.org](mailto:rebecca@broadwayucc.org)

### SPRING CONCERT – THIS SATURDAY, MAY 4

The New Amsterdam Boys and Girls Choir is proud to present its ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT, Saturday, May 4, 6pm, here at 123 West 71<sup>st</sup>. Admission \$20, under 18 free.

### BUCC CLIMATE GROUP FORMING

Are you interested in climate action? Does climate change worry you? Please join the Broadway Climate Ready Working Group! We'll be focusing on defining what it means to be a church that addresses climate change and that incorporates action into our faith. We are reading Karen Armstrong's *Sacred Nature* together as a basis for our conversations. Interested in joining? Reach out to Paul Henjes, Jared Gilbert, or Pastor Rebecca.

### PLEASE BE PART OF OUR SERVICE

If you know your way around a computer, the A/V Club is a fun way to help, and all the cool kids are doing it! You'll be clicking through our slide show during service. We also need readers each Sunday. Finally, we love to have light refreshments after service, and hosting is a great and welcome gift! Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the middle room, or via our new online link <https://broadwayucc.org/events>

### GIVING

BUCC now has a Venmo account @broadwayucc for receiving gifts, and the new QR code is below.

### THE BROADWAY UCC TEAM

**Rev. Rebecca Pridmore** • Pastor  
**Rev. Victoria L. Moss** • Associate Pastor  
**Shelly Zacher** • Office Administrator  
**Tom Ferri** • Bookkeeper  
**David Carney** • Sunday Building Manager  
**Red Gate Sound** • Live Streaming  
**Sarah Parker** • A/V

**Marie Zion** • Liturgist  
**Eunjoo Park** • Community Hour Host  
**CHOIR**  
**Jae Lee** • Guest Accompanist  
**Ann Wazelle**, Soprano • **Guadalupe Peraza**, Alto  
**Eric Lamp**, Tenor • **Patrick Lord-Remmert**, Bass

**This and recent services can be found at [broadwayucc.org](https://broadwayucc.org)**

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BROADWAY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
@broadwayucc



**venmo**

## The Table of God

*At Broadway United Church of Christ, God's Table is open – all may freely participate, regardless of membership, baptism, or belief.  
Please join us in a circle, and take this insert with you.*

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description.

...

Therefore with angels and archangels, ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea and the whole company of creation, we proclaim your presence among us, singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of  
power and might. Heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo - - - - -  
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -  
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high -  
est! Blest is the one who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -  
san - na in the high - est!

One: It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers:

...

We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
 Christ will come again. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est!

**One:** Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us. Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness.

**All:** Amen.

Our God in heav-en, ho-ly is your name, your  
 reign come, your will done, on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our  
 dai-ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for-giv-en. In the time of  
 tri-al lead us in-to light, for yours is the kin-dom, and the  
 pow-er, and the glo-ry, for-ev-er. Our God, in heav-en,  
 ho-ly is your name, ho-ly is your name.

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

**One:** Gathered family, in this room and across time and space, do we believe that in sharing this bread we are proclaiming the love of God to a broken world, and in sharing this cup, we participate in God's healing of the world? If so, let us share together.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**All:** Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.