



Artist's Garden at Giverny
- Claude Monet, 1900



Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Prelude	<i>The Holy Spirit Prelude</i>	Richard Wagner
Greeting		Rev. Henrietta Brown
Introit	<i>Veni Sancté Spiritus</i>	Taizé
*Call to Worship		Neal Heriaud

God tells us that we are the salt of the earth. Salt is critical in cooking. Sometimes salt is used to improve the flavor of food. Sometimes salt preserves food so that it can be eaten many days, weeks or months later. In addition, salt can be used in ways other than in food. For example, salt on an icy staircase, sidewalk or road can protect us from serious bodily injury.

May we find many ways to be the salt that flavors, preserves and protects God's holy community on earth.

God tells us not to hide our light. We know that our light is not the midday sun that provides life and that illuminates everything. Nevertheless, our light is still important because a lamp in a dark room helps everyone to do what is necessary without stumbling and falling.

May we let our light shine to guide God's holy community on earth.

Let us worship God with praise, and with gratitude for God's guidance about how to be the salt and light that God tells us that we are.

*Opening Hymn	<i>Arise Your Light Has Come</i>	p. 3
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Opening Prayer		Neal Heriaud
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Confession		Rev. Henrietta Brown
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**Source of all that gives life,
we have turned away from Your authority
to our own small concerns.
Forgive us for our failure to bear one another's burdens,
for boasting of anything but Your love,
for believing in our own power to justify our lives,
and for denying Your call to be salt and light.
Lead us into the river of life,
that in all we do, we may glorify Your name. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

In the name of the one who died and rose for us,

I declare to you the full forgiveness of all your sins
for new life.

Thanks be to God!

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
SM
(this tune in a lower key, 815)

Response	<i>Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (stzs 1)</i>	p. 4
Children's Message		Maureen Deahl
Scripture Reading		Matthew 5:13-16
<i>One: This is the Word of God for us, the people of God. All: Thanks be to God</i>		
Sermon	<i>Got Salt? Lift the Light</i>	Rev. Marcus Payne II
Anthem	<i>Spirit of the Living God</i>	
Prayer for the Offering		Neal Heriaud

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song

1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall

be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
 2 geth - er on the road. We are here to help each
 3 night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out
 4 laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
 5 find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -

grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 2 oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 3 to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 4 sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 5 geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
 (repeat stanza 1)

The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to “wash one another’s feet” (John 13:14).

TEXT: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.
 MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. Betty Pulkingham
 Text and Music © 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

***Doxology**

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!*

Prayers of the People Loving God, Hear our Prayer

Lord's Prayer *All are encouraged to pray the Lord's Prayer in the manner of their choosing, included below is one version:*

Our Father (Mother, Creator), 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 and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Rev. Henrietta Brown

***Closing Hymn**

Take Us As We Are, O God

p. 6

***Benediction**

Rev. Marcus Payne II

Postlude

Come Holy Ghost

Richard Proulx

Rev. Colin Knapp is away at a continuing education program as part of the UCC's *Next Generation Leadership Initiative*. He will return on Wednesday, May 1st. If you are in need of pastoral care, please reach out to Rev. Henrietta Brown or our lead Deacon, Bobbie Hald.

Pilgrim History

In the 1950's the church broadcast musical chimes from its tower during lent.

Today's Liturgist is Neal Heriaud. Connect Leaders are Jenny Burney and Cheryl Capps. Ushers are Mark Pedigo and Josephine Simmons. Our Online Worship Coordinators are Delena Wilkerson, Chuck Behensky, David Taylor-Glass, and Carol Bustamante. Our Sextons are Claudia Divis and Leslie Lauderdale. We give our thanks for their important contributions to our worship gathering. Pilgrim seeks to be accessible to all. Please ask an usher for assistance you may need to worship with us.

Take Us As We Are, O God 312

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F (A) C

1 Take us as we are, O God, and claim us as your own. As
 2 Bless us for your ser - vice, Lord; no pow - er we de - vise will
 3 Break us o - pen to dis - close how bro - ken - ness can heal, wher -
 4 Give us to the world you love as light and salt and yeast, that

(Em) Gm (Am) Cm (Em) Gm (D) F (G) B \flat

once you chose to tell your love in hu - man flesh and bone, so
 ev - er give us strength e - nough or make us tru - ly wise, yet
 ev - er bro - ken loaves suf - fice to give a crowd a meal and
 we may nour - ish in your name the last, the lost, the least, un -

(D) F (Bm) Dm (Em) Gm (A sus) C sus (A) C (A) C

1-3 4

let our lives be used to make your sav - ing pur - pose known.
 by your prom - ise we can know the peace your grace sup - plies.
 graves break o - pen to re - lease new life from death's dread seal.
 til at length you call us all to your un - end - ing feast.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This Lord's Supper text is organized around the fourfold liturgical shape traced by Dom Gregory Dix in *The Shape of the Liturgy*: take, bless, break, give. It considers how the phrase "Body of Christ," used for sacramental bread, can also be applied to the baptized people of God.

Our guest preacher this morning is the **Rev. Marcus Payne II**, (he, him, his). Rev. Payne is the Manager of Organizing at Lighthouse Foundation. He graduated with a Bachelor's in both Biblical and Theological Studies and Youth Ministry. Marcus enjoys building community with the folks around him and has a heart for seeing Black people thrive. He has had opportunities to present at conferences and summer camps to discuss various topics including discipleship, diversity, equity inclusion, and theological discussions on systematic injustices facing marginalized communities.

Our guest musician today and next Sunday is **Steven C. Meyer, LCSW**. Steve is a clinical social worker who has worked primarily with kids and young adults for his whole career. But, Steve is also a musician, who after many years of lessons enjoys putting in time as a keyboard sub for his local parish. He loves music and the opportunity to share a musical experience with the congregation. He has worked with a number of musicians in collaboration to share music with others.

Announcements

Tree Dedication and Fruit of the Earth Potluck

Today, Sunday, April 28, 2024

The Anniversary Bur Oak, donated by Leslie Sutphen and Byron Lanning, is a keystone native species. It will help support our urban ecosystem.

Following the dedication Pilgrim's Green Team invites you to bring vegetarian, vegan, or sustainably produced dishes to share during our "Fruit of the Earth" potluck.

Metropolitan Association Spring Meeting

Saturday, May 4, 2024, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Join your friends and colleagues from the Chicago Metropolitan Association on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at The Church of the Good Shepherd (5700 S. Prairie Ave, Chicago IL 60637), celebrating this year's theme, ubuntu - "I am because we are." The cost is \$15 with advanced registration and \$20 at the door. The registration cost includes a hot breakfast provided by Nicole Jordan Catering and lunch from Yassa African Restaurant and Cedars Mediterranean Kitchen. Please note any dietary restrictions/needs during registration. Instructions and the link to register can be found at the end of this email. **The deadline to register is Monday, April 29th.**

Join the Pilgrim Crop Hunger Walk Team

Sunday, May 5, 2024, 1PM

The 41st Annual Crop Hunger Walk is returning to a multi-congregational, in-person walk stepping off from Pilgrim Church and we need walkers for our team!! Help us raise money to end hunger in our community and the world. Festivities begin at 1pm with activities for kids and adults. The walk steps off at 2pm and includes a 3-mile or 1-mile route. Visit bit.ly/pilgrimcropwalk2024 to join or donate. Contact Pilgrim's team

captain, Rose DiPietro, for more info at rose.dipietro@gmail.com.

**Pilgrim Celebrating Graduates of all ages, Connect Leaders and Youths
Sunday, May 19th**

In our 10:30AM worship the Ministry of Christian Education and the Ministry of Christian Community will honor and Celebrate our Connect Leaders, Youths and 2024 graduates of all ages so **Mark your Calendars** and join us in worship that Sunday! Kindergarten thru PHD and anything in between. Please let me know by May 10th if you or someone in your family is graduating so we can recognize these accomplishments.

Maureen.deahl@pilgrimoakpark.org or at (708) 207-2208.

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