

First Congregational UCC of Wellington

Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Pastor

Sunday, April 11, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
“PEACE BE WITH YOU”
REVEAL Worship Series



Prelude

Gathering Moment

Call to Worship

At the beginning of the day, at the beginning of the week, the faithful yet fearful people gathered together. It was then that the Spirit of God came among them and whispered:

Peace be with you.

Their hearts skipped a beat as they double checked that the lock on the front door was still latched. So the Presence of God spoke a little louder:

Peace be with you.

They looked around at each other, puzzled, amazed, befuddled, and bewildered. Some smiled. Some doubted. Some wondered if it were just too magical sounding or too good to be true. So the Christ showed them that his own scars were not the end of the story and that is when the words of God began to feel joyous:

Peace be with you.

From that day on, the people of God repeated the words to one another when they gathered. From one generation to the next, they exchanged the words as a greeting to one another to remember that Holy interruption to fear:

Peace be with you.

Opening Prayer

*God of love and light,
we come as witnesses of your glory and faithfulness,
amazed to discover your transformative love.
God, we desire for you to abide within us,
and for your grace to be revealed anew daily.
Be with us and awaken within us the call to love one another,
in the way it was made real through Jesus the Christ. Amen.*

Hymn

“He Lives”

*I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near*

*He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart*

*In all the world around me I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair
I know that He is leading, through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing will come at last*

*He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart*

*Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find
None other is so loving, so good and kind*

*He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart*

Reading of Scripture Acts 4:32-35 | John 20:19-31

One: God is still speaking.

Many: We are listening. Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“PEACE BE WITH YOU”

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Hymn

“Easter Song”

*Hear the bells ringing, they're singing
That You can be born again
Here the bells ringing, they're singing
Christ is risen from the dead.*

*The angel up on the tombstone
Said, ? He has risen, just as He said
Quickly now, go tell His disciples
That Jesus Christ is no longer dead.*

*Joy to the world
He has risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.*

*Hear the bells ringing, they're singing
That You can be healed right now
Hear the bells ringing, they're singing
Christ, He will reveal it now.*

*The angels, they all surround us
And they are ministering Jesus's power
Quickly now, reach out and receive it
For this could be your glorious hour.*

*Joy to the world
He has risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.*

*The angel up on the tombstone
Said, ? He has risen, just as He said
Quickly now, go tell His disciples
That Jesus Christ is no longer dead.*

*Joy to the world
He has risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah
He's risen, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

Prayers of the People

Offering

God invites us to bring the fullness of who we are into worship
and to share the fullness of who we are with the world.
So it is God's holy invitation that asks us to pause

and wonder what we want to offer of ourselves to the world.
Time? Presence? Kindness? Financial support? Prayers?

In these moments of quiet and reflection:
what is it that you have to offer this day to bring about God's peace on Earth?

Prayer of Dedication

*God of abundant love,
We offer a portion of our time, spiritual gifts, and resources
as a sign of our love for you and the world.
O God, we give you our thanks for all that we have
and ask a special blessing on these offerings.
And God, we ask that our collective offering
be an expression of healing, that brings hope to a hurting world.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

News of the Community

Hymn

"Sometimes Alleluia"

*Sometimes alleluia,
Sometimes praise the lord
Sometimes gently singing,
Our hearts in one accord.*

*Oh let us lift our voices,
Look toward the sky and start to sing
Oh let us now return his love,
Just let our voices ring
Oh let us feel his presence,
Let the sound of praises fill the air
Oh let us sing the song of Jesus' love,
To people everywhere.*

*Sometimes alleluia,
Sometimes praise the lord
Sometimes gently singing,
Our hearts in one accord*

*Oh let our joy be unconfined,
Let us sing with freedom unrestrained
Let's take this feeling that we're feeling now,
Outside these walls and let it rain.
Oh let the spirit overflow,
As we are filled from head to toe.
We love you father, son and holy ghost,
And we want this world to know.*

*Sometimes alleluia,
Sometimes praise the lord
Sometimes gently singing,
Our hearts in one accord*

*Sometimes alleluia,
Sometimes praise the lord
Sometimes gently singing,
Our hearts in one accord*

Benediction and Charge

*Go forth into this day and into the world in the name of God,
the one who creates you;
go in the name of the Jesus who shows us the way;
and go in the name of the Holy Spirit,
who is with us now and always.
Peace be with you. Amen.*

Fellowship on Zoom