



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

EASTER SERIES: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Pastorale

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Katie Miller

***Greeting and Passing of the Peace**

"The Peace of God be with you."

In Unison: **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

** Let us rise in body or spirit.*

Call to Worship

Lyn Bouma, liturgist

Sing a new song!

A springtime shout-out to life!

Sing praise to our joyful Easter God

Whose power brings new life out of death!

Immerse doubt and despair in the fountain of new birth

Find refreshment and strength for a future of hope!

For God has taken ordinary things

And made them extraordinary.

***Processional Hymn** Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day OLD HUNDREDTH

Joy dawned again on Easter Day, the sun shone out with bright array; for when the Apostles hid in fear, the Risen Christ to them appeared.

O Jesus, Savior, Gentle One, come take our hearts to be your own, that we may ever give you all our days, the willing tribute of our praise.

O Sovereign One, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide; from every weapon death can wield, your own redeemed forever shield.

***Invocation**

Holy God, nothing is beyond your power to transform. In a gray dawn, you coax songs of Alleluia. From the tombs of our despair, you call us to meaningful work. We praise you for this amazing day! Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide morning. Amen.

***Gloria**

Black Hymnal, No. 759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Conversation with the Children

Rev. Katie Miller

Contemporary Reading

from The love of life in times of danger

Jurgen Moltmann

Word in Music

Katie Miller, soloist

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:22-33

Pew Bible, Pages 111-112

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Ways of Life

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

* Hymn

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

Black Hymnal, No. 57

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Redeeming God, with you there is always more life, more hope, more joy.
When doubt assails us, and we fail to recognize you at work in our lives,
When fear impairs our faith,
When anger and sorrow stop us from doing the risky work of love,
Lord, have mercy!

*Words of Assurance

In those times when our faith falters, when we cannot recognize the presence of the Holy among us, God takes our faith and transforms it, patiently showing us the many ways Christ walks among us. Look around you: grace abounds at the heart of all life. You are all God's children, loved without condition, rest in that peace.
Amen.

Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

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

Sarabande

***Hymn of Dedication**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Offertory Prayer**

**O God, you have become our light and our salvation – let these gifts open the
gates of joy to all who hunger and thirst for your holy presence on this and every
day. We pray in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus the Christ! Amen.**

***Recessional Hymn**

The Day of Resurrection

Black Hymnal, No. 425

LANCASHIRE

***Benediction**

Benediction Response

Bouma

**May you hear laughter in the wind. May you see hope in the light.
May you find courage in your faith. May you know joy in your God.**

Postlude

Fanfare

Open & Affirming Statement

**In our ongoing quest for hearts that open, minds that understand,
and lives that serve, we welcome into our fellowship, membership, leadership, and
employment, all people, regardless of abilities, race, gender, sexual orientation, or any
God-given characteristic.**

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

57

Jean Janzen, 1991; based on writings by
Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, 12th century

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, Root of life, Cre - a - tor,
2 E - ter - nal Vig - or, Sav - ing One, you free us
3 O Ho - ly Wis - dom, Soar - ing Power, en - com - pass

cleans - er of all things, a - noint our wounds, a -
by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -

wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all, a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

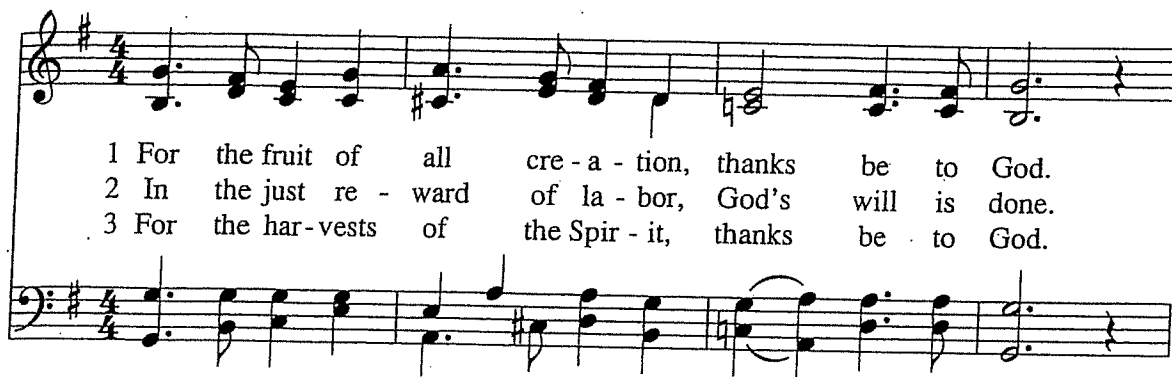
Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179) was a “woman for all seasons.” A German abbess, she was a prolific liturgical composer and poet, artist and mystic, and scientist and theologian whose works exhibit deep spirituality. This new text

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR L.M.
Melody from “Piae Cantiones,” 1582
Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

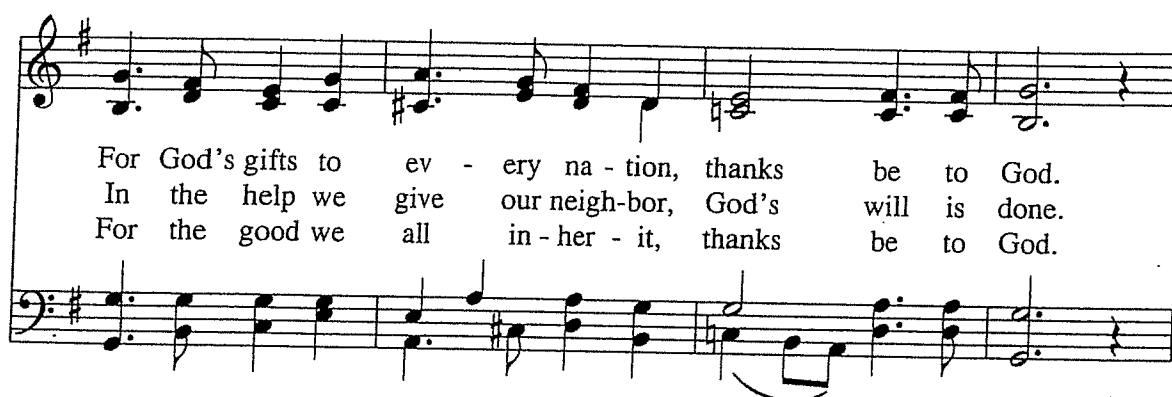
For the Fruit of All Creation

425

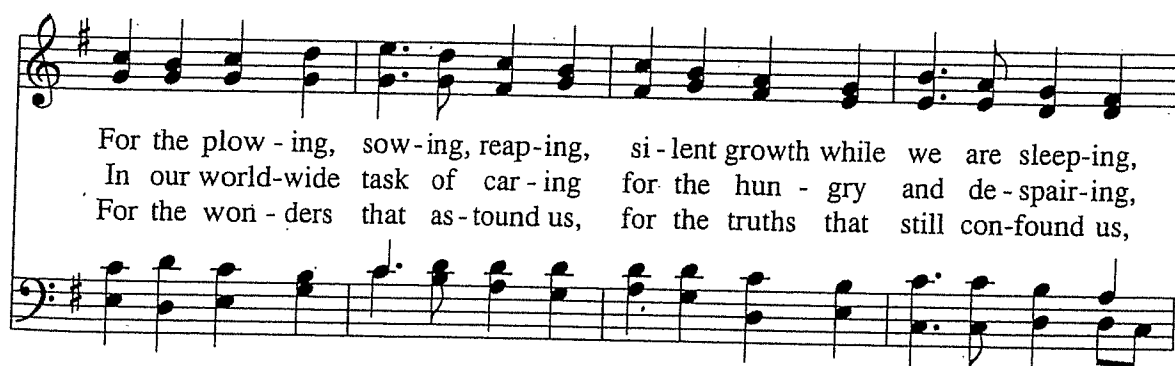
Fred Pratt Green, 1970



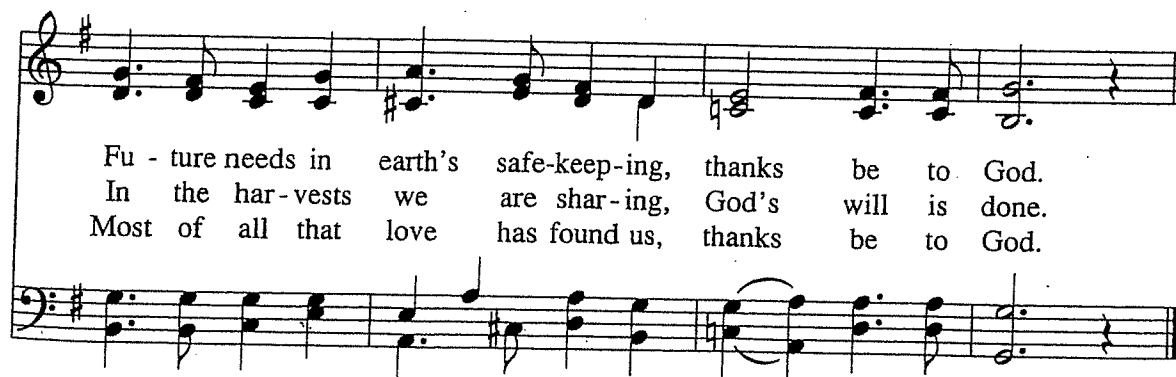
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Announcements

April 19, 2020

Prayers: for all helpers.

Joys: *Sharon Heater*, celebrating the birth of her first grandchild, *Amelia Grace!*

Chancel flowers and decorations: sponsored this month by friends and family of First Central. Thanks to *Bud Cassidy* for the loan of his beautiful painting!

Happy Birthday this week: to *Deb Kirwan, Mary Solberg, Daryl Malena, Ericka Obner, Sally Lewis, Nikki Zimmerman*, and *Stephanie Cameron*.

Fair Trade Coffee: sponsors this month are *Steve & Susan Dolezal; Scott Jones & Michael Cich-Jones; Julie McKillip; Luther & Barb MacNaughton*.

FIRSTKids: 1 p.m. on Zoom. Kids through sixth grade.

Activities for the Coming Week, April 20 – April 25

*Lectionary Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19;
1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35.*

Monday: Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pastor's Study.

Wednesday: Bible study, 3 p.m. on Zoom
Pre-K, K Sunbeams, 6 p.m., on Zoom.
FirstYouth, 8 p.m. on Zoom

Sunday, April 26

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on YouTube

FIRSTKids: 1 p.m. on Zoom. Kids through sixth grade.

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.

