



“Lyre”

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
30 N. CLINTON ST.  
IOWA CITY, IA 52245  
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR APRIL 28, 2024  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“When the angels praise God in Heaven I am sure they play Bach. However, *en famille* they play Mozart, and then God the Lord is especially delighted to listen to them.”

Karl Barth

PRELUDE “Andante” Johann Georg Albrechtsberger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Andrea Rauer, Liturgist  
Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

CHORAL INTROIT

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 98)**

O sing to the Lord a new song,  
for God has done marvelous things.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of God.**

For God is good;

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**\*HYMN 218**                    "New Songs of Celebration Render"

**New songs of celebration render  
To God who has great wonders done;  
Love sits enthroned in ageless splendor;  
Come and adore the Mighty One.  
God has made known the great salvation  
Which all his friends with joy confess.  
God has revealed to every nation  
Truth and unending righteousness.**

**Joyfully, heartily resounding,  
Let every instrument and voice  
Peal out the praise of grace abounding,  
Calling the whole world to rejoice.  
Trumpets and organs, set in motion  
Such sounds as make the heavens ring;  
All things that live in earth and ocean,  
Sound forth the song, your praises bring.**

**Rivers and seas and torrents roaring,  
Honor the Lord with wild acclaim;  
Mountains and stones look up adoring,  
And find a voice to praise God's name.  
Righteous, commanding, ever glorious,  
Praises be sung that never cease;  
Just is our God, whose truth victorious  
Establishes the world in peace.**

**\* OPENING PRAYER (a prayer of Henri Capieu)**

**God, we sing to you and give you thanks. For despite our pains and faults, in the midst of our pains and faults, we know that you are a God who calls forth our praise and love.**

**For the world, so beautiful and so fragile; for life, so lovely and so threatened; for this immense universe in which your realm will spread, we praise you.**

**For this day which speaks to us again of the resurrection, for your Spirit which unites us in all our separate places, we praise you.**

**And because we can love you and love each other on the earth, in the name of the love of Christ, in peace and with joy, God we praise you. Amen.**

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#218—RENDEZ À DIEU)

**Now let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure to find.  
Christ is alive and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings—  
our God is making all things new.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      I Chronicles 16:1-10

PSALM 150

Hallelujah!

Praise God in the holy temple;  
give praise in the firmament of heaven.

**Praise God who is mighty in deed;  
give praise for God's excellent greatness.**

Praise God with the blast of the ram's-horn;  
give praise with lyre and harp.

**Praise God with timbrel and dance;  
give praise with strings and pipe.**

Praise God with resounding cymbals;  
give praise with loud-clanging cymbals.

**Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord.  
Hallelujah!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Colossians 3:12-17

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

CHORAL OFFERING      *Missa brevis in F major, K.192*

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

**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.**

Choral Response

#### SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Trio in D Major” Johann Gottfried Vierling

\*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below,  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\* HYMN 264 “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

**When in our music God is glorified,  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried:  
Alleluia!**

**How often, making music, we have found  
a new dimension in the world of sound  
as worship moved us to a more profound  
Alleluia!**

**So has the Church, in liturgy and song,  
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,  
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,  
Alleluia!**

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise,  
let all rejoice who have a voice to raise,  
and may God give us faith to sing always:  
Alleluia! Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Fugue in C Major” Johann Ernst Eberlin

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Opening prayer by Henri Capiieu, from *A Book of Reformed Prayers*, ©1998 Westminster John Knox Press. Capiieu was a French Reformed Pastor, ordained in 1933, who served at Clairac and at Les Salies de Béarn (1946-47). He pastored the church in Algiers (1947-61) where he befriended Albert Camus, and worked against torture during the Algerian war. He then became pastor in central Paris at the Luxemburg Temple (1961-78). He was a hymnwriter and a talented poet, with a sensitivity to suffering and a calm repose.

Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Dr. Chris Nakielski
Children’s Choir Director	Majesty Constable
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

#### TODAY

- ❖ Church School Breakfast 9:00 am
- Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Christian Education 9:15 am  
(No Adult Education)
- Worship Service—Special Music 10:15 am
- Spring Brunch Following Worship

#### MONDAY

- ❖ Serving at Free Lunch Program Noon

#### SATURDAY

- ❖ Agape Café Breakfast 8-11:00 am

#### NEXT SUNDAY

- ❖ Church School Breakfast 9:00 am
- Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Christian Education 9:15 am

**WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US THIS MORNING.** Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

**THANKS FOR BEING HERE FOR OUR SPRING SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY.** This morning the Congregational UCC Choir will offer Mozart's *Missa brevis in F major, K.192*.

**AFTER WORSHIP, JOIN US FOR BRUNCH:** The Membership Board invites everyone to Brunch today following worship. During this time, we will recognize members who joined the church this past year. The brunch is catered so there is no need to bring anything. New members, prospective members, longtime members, and visitors are all welcome.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION—MAY 12:** Every year we recognize the high school graduates in our congregation. This year Sylvia Woolums will graduate from City High. The Diaconate has a book available in Rockwood Hall in which you can share your thoughts and good wishes with Sylvia. We will recognize her during worship on May 12.

**WEAR RED ON PENTECOST SUNDAY—MAY 19:** We will celebrate Pentecost on May 19. This day completes the long arc from Ash Wednesday through Easter resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Christ—a journey “from ashes to fire.” Pentecost marks God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and our morning will be a spirited time together. The traditional color for Pentecost is red. We invite everyone to please consider wearing “flame colors”—red, orange, yellow—to worship on Sunday, May 19.

**THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD IS ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR A NEW DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.** A complete job description is posted on the church website. Advertising will commence by the end of March. Members of the congregation are encouraged to spread the word and have interested persons contact Rev. William Lovin [uccicrev@uccic.org](mailto:uccicrev@uccic.org) and Sally Strang [sallystrang@mchsi.com](mailto:sallystrang@mchsi.com).

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE AGAPE CAFE FUNDRAISER** at Old Brick on Saturday, May 4th from 8:00 to 11:00 am. Please feel free to come for a free breakfast and conversation. The Congregational UCC provides financial support to Agape Cafe, a provider of weekly free breakfasts for those who come. Come see what they do!

**PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT:** Several people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot on Jefferson St. If you are able, please park elsewhere so that the marked and unmarked spaces can be used by those who need them. Thanks.

**ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE HOMELESS:** Trinity United Methodist Church of Riverside Iowa has purchased a loom and is using clean, plastic bags to construct Sleeping Mats for the homeless. These are lightweight, waterproof, and easy to pack and carry. By contributing our clean, plastic bags, we can help them help others. Bring your clean, unneeded, plastic grocery bags, or trash bags, any color, any size, here, to Rockwood Hall. We will see to it that they are delivered.

**SEE SOMETHING—SAY SOMETHING:** If you notice something in the building that needs attention—a leaky faucet, a loose railing, etc.—please let the church office (319-337-4301) know right away. Thanks.

**USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES:** There are still some opportunities to greet people coming to worship, to usher, and to provide hospitality during coffee hour after worship. Please sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall or call the church office--319-337-4031.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST ON SUNDAY MORNING?** This is a great opportunity to welcome people and to lead them in worship. Bill Lovin provides the material. You provide the spirit. Contact Bill if you are interested or would like more information.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.  
Your giving makes a world of difference.

**WE LIVE STREAM OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10:15 ON SUNDAY MORNING.**

You can join us online in real time at <https://vimeo.com/event/1424751>. This streaming address is the same each week.

**RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES** are posted after worship on Sunday at <https://vimeo.com/channels/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.