

* **Sung Response: # 780 The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, you heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* **Prayer of Dedication:**

Holy God, we thank you for this special gift of Easter – for the sun that rises each day and the Son that rises every day in our hearts. In gratitude, we dedicate our gifts for your purpose, in the name of Jesus, the risen One. Amen.

* **Hymn: # 245 “The Day of Resurrection”**

* **Benediction:**

Today, we witness once again the resurrection of Jesus – proof of his unending mercy, grace, and power. That makes us Resurrection People – carriers of the greatest of miracle to share with others - Jesus Christ is risen and everyone who follows him will rise above the hardships of the world now and live in pure joy in heaven forevermore. Glory be to God now and always. Amen.

* **Response: # 253 “Yours is the Glory, Resurrected One”**
(Refrain Only)

* **Postlude Music** Deb Rick

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Wishing everyone a most blessed Easter morning.
May this day and all your days yet to come be filled
with Resurrection Light and the Eternal Love of Christ.
Go in peace and serve the Lord.



St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Easter Sunday - April 9, 2023

Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson
Director of Music Ministry – Deborah Rick



The Ringing of the Church Bell

**Welcome / Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations /
Prayer Concerns / Announcements to Share**

Prelude Music

Deb Rick

Let us rise and join our voices in the Call to Worship.

* **Call To Worship:**

Pastor: Alleluia! It's Easter morning and Christ has risen!
A new day has dawned with new life and new promises of
good things for all of us.

**People: Alleluia! God is with us – bringing goodness,
hope, light, and love into our lives and into our world.
Let us celebrate our risen Lord!**

Pastor: With gratitude to God, let us join our voices together in
saying our Affirmation of Faith ...

* **Affirmation of Faith:**

**We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God
who has created and is creating - who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new - who
works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church - to celebrate God's
presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and
resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge
and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is
with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

Together, we sing our first hymn.

* **Hymn: # 233 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”**

Please Be Seated

Call to Prayer: On this special day, let us join our voices together in a special prayer ...

Unison Prayer:

Holy One, we greet this morning with hope renewed. We have known grief and sorrow, loss and tears, fear and failure. Meet us here, living Christ, for we need this time of resurrection. We seek your healing presence. We long to hear your word of greeting that welcomes us into the community of faith in spite of our doubts and faithlessness. You are our Savior and teacher and we have come to learn from you and be your disciples. Amen.

Assurance:

Because we worship a risen Christ, we know that God can and will meet us wherever we are, hear our prayers, and hold us in his care now, tomorrow, and always. Because he lives, we, too, will live for ever. Praise Be To God. Amen.

Sung Response: # 2026 “Halle, Halle, Halleluja”

Scripture Reading:

Liturgist = Eric Hanson

We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God’s Holy Scripture. Our lesson today comes from the Gospel of John, chapter 20. We are reading verses 1-18 where we hear the story of what happened in the garden near the empty tomb.

Let us pray: Holy God, you have given us the gift of life and eternal life through the resurrection of your Son Jesus. Be with us this day as we celebrate this miracle and hear again the story of that first Easter so long ago.

Read Scripture Lesson (found on page 114 of the NT in Pew Bible)

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of God’s Holy Scripture. May God bless us with understanding and may we show our understanding in the way we live our lives. Amen.

Hymn: # 231 “Because You Live, O Christ”

Pastor's Message: “It All Comes Down To This”

Special Music – Choir Anthem

The Sacrament of Holy Communion



Sung Response: # 2167 “More Like You”

Prayer for the People

Lord's Prayer:

We pray this in the name of Jesus, and now pray together as he taught us, saying:

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 for ever. Amen.

Offering Invitation:

The joy that Easter brings assures us that even in the midst of difficult times, we can be confident that all good things are possible with God. In gratitude for God’s love and care, we contribute our time, and talents, and treasure to support the work and mission of our church. Let us now present our offerings to God that they may be used for the good of his church.

Offertory