

LET THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU, O GOD; LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU!
PSALM 67:3



THE RESURRECTION | GIULIO BONASONE | ITALIAN | 1561



THE CHURCH OF THE
INCARNATION

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF
EASTER
APRIL 21, 2024

Welcome To
The CHURCH of the INCARNATION

*To all who are spiritually weary and desire rest,
To all who are mourning and long for comfort,
To all who struggle and desire victory,
To all who sin and need a Savior,
To all who are hungry and thirst for righteousness,
And to whomever will come,
This church opens her doors,
Offering welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence.
Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our
sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in
praise and adoration.

Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.

Please stand.

*Alleluia, sometimes spelled *hallelujah*, is a Hebrew command to praise God. To say or sing this word is to command those around you to praise God.

Alleluia!* Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

COME PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING

Keith & Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend, © 2007 Thank You Music, CCLI License 11069486.

Come people of the risen King
Who delight to bring him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Rejoice rejoice
Let every tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O church of Christ rejoice

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change
And His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace

Come young and old from ev'ry land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age
Our God is all in all

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I was glad when they said to me:

"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Praise the Lord!

The name of the Lord be praised!

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Almighty God, you bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadows of our hearts; cleanse and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

*When we confess our sins to God we are not groveling in guilt; we are dealing with our guilt. If we deny our sins, we will never be free from them.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN*

• • •

Please kneel and silently confess your sins against God and your neighbor.

Almighty God, creator of all, you marvelously made us in your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son; remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Only God can forgive sins. In announcing God's forgiveness, pastors obey Christ's command to his ministers to pronounce Christ's forgiveness on his behalf (John 20:23).

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

• • •

Please stand.

THE PSALM

Lord, open our lips.

^oPsalms 51:15

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.^o

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

^{Psalm 67:1} May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face to shine upon us,

**² that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

³ Let the people praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you!

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**for you judge the peoples with equity and guide
the nations upon earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, shall bless us.

⁷ God shall bless us;

let all the ends of the earth fear him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end, Amen.**

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**O God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the Good
Shepherd of your people: Grant that, when we hear
his voice, we may know him who calls us each by
his name, and follow where he leads; who, with you
and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for
ever and ever. Amen.**

*The collect is a prayer that goes with the scripture readings, summarizing the theme of this particular worship service.

Children grades 1–5 are dismissed for Children’s Ministry.

Please be seated.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

We encounter our risen Lord in Scripture. As a people defined by God's Word, we respond to God through confession of faith, corporate prayer, and a demonstration of our reconciliation with one another in passing the peace of Christ.

EXODUS 18:1-12

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 PETER 3:13-17

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Before the Scripture is read:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

*The Nicene Creed has been prayed and recited since AD 325. It is the most widely used encapsulation of the essential and unifying beliefs of Christianity.

**Through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation he came down from
 heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man. For our sake he was
 crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death
 and was buried. On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living
 and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
 life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
 glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic
 Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
 forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of
 the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Catholic here means that every local church founded on the gospel is part of the one universal church founded by God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*We close with a prayer for mission from the Book of Common Prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader will invite us to pray.

...

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

Greet those around you with some version of these words:

“The peace of Christ be with you.”

Parents pick up infants & toddlers from upstairs at this time.

Please be seated.

*This ancient tradition is rooted in Luke 24:36-49. In these words we hear the promise that the dark side of life in the world and in us will not prevail. The power of the evil one has been overcome.

THE OFFERING*

AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: B.F. White. CCLI License 11069486.

As we gather at your table
As we listen to your word
Help us know, O God, your presence
Let our hearts and minds be stirred
Nourish us with sacred story
'Til we claim it as our own
Teach us through this holy banquet
How to make Love's victory known

Turn our worship into witness
In the sacrament of life
Send us forth to love and serve you
Bringing peace where there is strife
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
To forgive as you forgave
May we still behold your image
In the world you died to save

Gracious Spirit, help us summon
Other guests to share this feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome
Those who had been last and least
There no more will envy blind us
Nor will pride our peace destroy
As we join with saints and angels
To repeat the sounding joy

Please stand.

PRaise GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Words: Thomas Ken, lasst uns erfreuen. 1674; Public domain.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures here below
Alleluia Alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

God welcomes his people to feast at his table. This meal, a means of grace for all who receive by faith, is a rehearsal of the central act of the Christian faith: Christ's death on the cross — his body broken and his blood shed as a sacrifice for our sins.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Is the Father with us? **He is!**

Is Christ among us? **He is!**

Is the Spirit here? **He is!**

This is our God.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are his people. **We are redeemed!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Hosanna,* hosanna, in the highest
Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

*Hosanna is a Hebrew word that carries a twofold meaning: to praise Jesus as the Son of God sent to save us and to cry out to Jesus for that salvation.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

...

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We are brothers and sisters through his blood.

We have died together. We will rise together.

We will live together.

...

This is the feast of victory:
**The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign.
Hallelujah!**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and repentance for sin are welcome to share in this feast. If for any reason you would prefer to abstain, cross your arms over your chest, and one of the servers will pray a blessing for you.

Come forward to receive communion row by row. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, take a small cup at the front of the aisle as you go forward. When arriving at the front of the communion line, place your hands in front of you to receive a piece of bread, and consume it. After receiving the bread, proceed to the first server to take a drink from the common cup (please do not dip your bread) or to the second server with your plastic cup to receive a pour of wine. Grape juice is available at the far right station and is available poured only.

I am because we are:
We are because he is.

We are one body:
We share one bread.

Draw near with faith:
Christ is the host and we are his guests.

THE DISTRIBUTION*

GOD OF ALL POWER AND GRACE

Jamie Brown. © 2012 Worthily Magnify Music. CCLI License 11069486.

God of all power and grace
Be enthroned in the midst of our praise
As we lift our voice to bless you
God who inhabits our praise
You're with us here in this place
As we lift our song before you

We lift you up we glorify
You who are worthy you who are mighty to save
Be lifted up be glorified
Here in your presence you free us to offer you praise
God of all power and grace

God of all power and grace
We who were lost have been saved
So we lift our voice to bless you
God our redeemer and friend
We know mercy and love without end
So we lift our song before you

God of all power and grace
When we look upon your holy face
We will lift our voice to bless you
God who all heaven adores
We will worship you forevermore
When we lift our song before you

IS HE WORTHY?

Andrew Peterson | Ben Shive © 2018 Capitol CMG Genesis. CCLI License 11069486.

Do you feel the world is broken? **We do**
Do you feel the shadows deepen? **We do**
But do you know that all the dark
Won't stop the light from getting through? **We do**
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **We do**

Is all creation groaning? **It is**
Is a new creation coming? **It is**
Is the glory of the Lord
To be the light within our midst? **It is**
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **It is**

***Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is he worthy, is he worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is***

Does the Father truly love us? **He does**
Does the Spirit move among us? **He does**
And does Jesus our Messiah
Hold forever those He loves? **He does**
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **He does**

***Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From ev'ry people and tribe every nation and
tongue***

**He has made us a kingdom and priests
To God to reign with the Son
Is he worthy, is he worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is he worthy, is he worthy
Is he worthy of this?
He is**

**Is he worthy, is he worthy?
He is, he is**

THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD

Lewis Ellis Jones. Public Domain CCLI License 11069486

Would you be free from your burden of sin?
There is pow'r in the blood pow'r in the blood
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood

There is pow'r pow'r wonder-working pow'r
In the blood of the Lamb
There is pow'r pow'r wonder-working pow'r
In the precious blood of the Lamb

Would you be free from your passion and pride?
There's pow'r in the blood pow'r in the blood
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood

Would you be whiter much whiter than snow?
There's pow'r in the blood pow'r in the blood
Sin-stains are lost in its life-giving flow
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood

Would you do service to Jesus your King?
There's pow'r in the blood pow'r in the blood
Would you live daily his praises to sing?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at your feet, learned from your word, and eaten from your table. We give you thanks and praise for accepting us into your family. Send us out with your blessing, to live and to witness for you in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING

Please stand.

All our problems:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our difficulties:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All the devil's works:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our hopes:

We set on the risen Christ!

...

We are raised to new life with Christ. Go in his peace.
Alleluia. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Nursery: Staffed by trained and screened volunteers. Also open for parents/caretakers and infants, anytime during the service for fussy babies. Located upstairs, midway down the hall to your left. Available throughout the service. Pickup is at the Peace.

Toddler Room: For steady walkers up to 3 years old. Located upstairs; last classroom on the right. Check-in located outside the classroom. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup is at the Peace.

Preschool: 3–6 year olds. Upstairs; check-in located outside the classroom before the service begins. Pickup is at the Peace.

Elementary: 1st–5th grade. After the Collect, children will be dismissed to their class upstairs. Prior to the Lord's Supper, they will return to the service. 3rd–5th graders go to small multipurpose room (204).

NEWS AND EVENTS

Lost & Found today - last day

Please check the table today. After this week, everything will be donated.

Youth Group

All 6th–12th graders are welcome to join us this afternoon from 4–6pm. Invite a friend! Enter through the Mason Street entrance.

Women's Connector - Apr 27, 1:30pm (Note: change of time & activity)

Join us for a time of connection with other women of Incarnation. Topic: Favorite Wines, Favorite Reads. info: Katie Rankin. katiesnewlife@hotmail.com

LGBTQ+ Support Groups forming

1) Sexual & Gender Minorities: we are starting a group for sexual & gender minorities who are interested in following Jesus. Whether you have a great relationship with the church, are mid-deconstruction, or are unsure if you have faith at all, this will be a space for you to reflect on and connect with Jesus.

2) Families of LGBTQ+ Loved Ones: Aubrey and Janielle Spears are hosting a gathering at their home for parents and adult siblings of LGBTQ+ loved ones. Friday, April 26, from 6:30pm–8pm. Light refreshments provided.

If you are interested in either group, contact Aubrey Spears*

Church Work Day & Youth Fundraiser Breakfast - May 4

Join us for our church-wide Spring Work Day on Saturday, May 4th, 9–noon. Youth will serve a pancake breakfast beginning around 8:30am. All donations will go to Camp scholarships. We'll have tasks for all skills and skill levels, indoor and outdoor. A sign-up link is forthcoming soon. Questions: Amanda*.

Special Offering for Diocese of Kadugli, Sudan - May 19

On May 19, we will collect a special offering in support of The Diocese of Kadugli. This Diocese has been our partner in mission in Sudan's Nuba Mountains since 2016. Info: pd4n.org (Pax Dei for Nuba)

Pentecost Party - May 19 (5–7pm)

Potluck picnic & BBQ competition at the church building. Games, fun activities. Bring lawn chairs, outdoor games, blankets, BYOB (wine, beer, soda, special drinks). Childcare available for 0–5yr olds.

Last names: A–M, main dish & dessert. N–Z, main dish & side. (BBQ counts as your main dish.)

Arts Incarnate

Arts Incarnate is an outreach arm of the church, for the purpose of engaging in the local community arts scene. To learn more about upcoming concerts and events, or how you can get involved, check out the website: QR code, or the old way: artsincarnate.com.



**ARTS
INCARNATE**

Next Steps: Get connected!

Worship

Sunday worship services are the easiest way to enter into the life of our church.

Welcome Lunch - April 28 @12:15pm

Newcomers are warmly invited to join us for a welcome lunch. This is a great time to meet other new folks, to ask questions in a friendly environment, and to meet the pastors.

Small Groups

We gather in Small Groups geographically to share meals, listen to and pray for each other and our neighbors. Small groups are the central way we serve one another and our community.

Essentials Course - May 15–Jun 12

Our Essentials Course provides an in-depth look at five issues: the Gospel, Worship, Discipleship, Community, and Mission. Generally we offer this course three times a year, in the summer, the fall, and late winter.



**SIGN UP for
ESSENTIALS**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Apr 24 Free concert: Knotz & Elise (Levitt-Amp summer lineup reveal)

Apr 25 Arts Incarnate concert: David Wax Museum

Apr 27 Women's Connector (wine & books)

Apr 28 Welcome Lunch

May 4 Church Work Day (& pancake breakfast youth fundraiser!)

May 19 Pentecost Party

May 25 Women's connector



Office hours: 9 to 5, Monday through Friday
Ring bell at Federal Street entrance

www.theincarnation.org

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