

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude on B-A-C-H Franz Liszt

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Introit To Him Who Sits Upon the Throne

Arr. Donald Moore ©1994 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

**UMH 160** 

1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing; your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

#### Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

2. Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud; whilst answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud.

#### Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go; from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.

#### Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

4. At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their heavenly home, Jerusalem the blest.

#### Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

5. Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore.

#### Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

### **Blessing for Children**

### Prayers of the People

A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying. Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### The 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 tresspasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Prayer Response**

Amen

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## WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

#### Scriptures

John 11:1-45 (CEB)

A certain man, Lazarus, was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This was the Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped his feet with her hair. Her brother Lazarus was ill.) So the sisters sent word to Jesus, saying, "Lord, the one whom you love is ill."

When he heard this, Jesus said, "This illness isn't fatal. It's for the glory of God so that God's Son can be glorified through it." Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. When he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was. After two days, he said to his disciples, "Let's return to Judea again."

The disciples replied, "Rabbi, the Jewish opposition wants to stone you, but you want to go back?"

Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours in the day? Whoever walks in the day doesn't stumble because they see the light of the world. But whoever walks in the night does stumble because the light isn't in them."

He continued, "Our friend Lazarus is sleeping, but I am going in order to wake him up."

The disciples said, "Lord, if he's sleeping, he will get well." They thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was in a deep sleep, but Jesus had spoken about Lazarus' death.

Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. For your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there so that you can believe. Let's go to him."

Then Thomas (the one called Didymus) said to the other disciples, "Let us go too so that we may die with Jesus."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Bethany was a little less than two miles from Jerusalem. Many Jews had come to comfort Martha and Mary after their brother's death. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary remained in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died. Even now I know that whatever you ask God, God will give you."

Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, the one who is coming into the world."

After she said this, she went and spoke privately to her sister Mary, "The teacher is here and he's calling for you." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to Jesus. He hadn't entered the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were comforting Mary in the house saw her get up quickly and leave, they followed her. They assumed she was going to mourn at the tomb.

When Mary arrived where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

When Jesus saw her crying and the Jews who had come with her crying also, he was deeply disturbed and troubled. He asked, "Where have you laid him?"

They replied, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus began to cry. The Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" But some of them said, "He healed the eyes of the man born blind. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Jesus was deeply disturbed again when he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone covered the entrance. Jesus said, "Remove the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, "Lord, the smell will be awful! He's been dead four days."

Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see God's glory?" So they removed the stone. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. I know you always hear me. I say this for the benefit of the crowd standing here so that they will believe that you sent me." Having said this, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his feet bound and his hands tied, and his face covered with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Therefore, many of the Jews who came with Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.

Revelation 21:3-5a (NRSVue)

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

### Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Arr. Dale Grotenhuis

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Message We Believe: Life Everlasting Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response in the World

Invitation to the Offering

**Offertory** Come Sunday Duke Ellington

Joyce Theilacker, Soprano; Rebecca Cosford, Piano ©1966 by G. Shirmer, Inc.

† **Doxology** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94

#### † Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe!

All: in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

One: We believe!

All: in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born

of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the

living and the dead.

One: We believe!

All: in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the

forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

One: We believe!

All: We believe! Amen.

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

## † Closing Hymn

Ask Me What Great Thing I Know

**UMH 163** 

- Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so? What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in? Jesus Christ, the crucified.
- 2. Who defeats my fiercest foes? Who consoles my saddest woes? Who revives my fainting heart, healing all its hidden smart? Jesus Christ, the crucified.
- 3. Who revives my fainting heart, healing all its hidden smart? Jesus Christ, the crucified. Who will place me on his right, with the countless hosts of light? Jesus Christ, the crucified.

4. This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so: faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave: Jesus Christ, the crucified.

#### † Benediction

**Postlude** Postlude in Bb

J. Grover ©J. Fishcher & Bro

Organist: Jenny Lai

**Ushers:** Cindy Rushing, Ann Davis, Gail Chatfield, Betsy Witt, **Audio Visual Team:** Dave Flores, Emilio Valente, Cameron Rhodes

Liturgical elements from The Abingdon Worship Annual

## LJUMC Ministry Team

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