

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
RISUS PASCHALIS
Morning Worship – 10:00 a.m.**

April 24, 2022

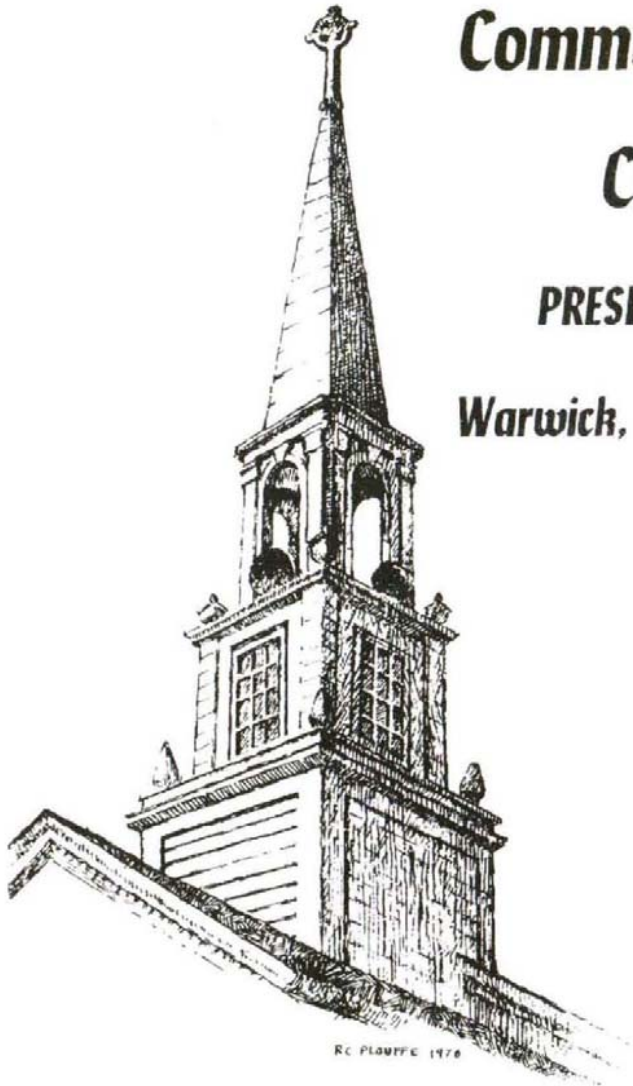
Greenwood

Community

Church

PRESBYTERIAN

Warwick, Rhode Island



Blessed Lord, by Whose providence all Holy Scriptures were written and preserved for our instruction: give us grace to study them each day with patience and love; strengthen our souls with the fullness of their divine teaching; keep us from all pride and irreverence; guide us in the deep things of Your heavenly wisdom; and, of Your great mercy, lead us by Your word into life abundant and eternal.

A prayer of Brooke Foss Westcott, 1825-1901, Bishop of Durham

PRELUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him! arr. Wayne Fritchie
Alexandra Nichols, Violin

Variations on Lasst Uns Erfreuen arr. C. Callahan
(All Creatures of Our God and King)
John Black, Organ

EPISTLE READING

I John 1:1-4

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Revelation 1:4-8

Grace and peace to you from Him Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come, and from the sevenfold Spirit before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, Who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

TO HIM WHO LOVES US AND HAS FREED US FROM OUR SINS BY HIS BLOOD, AND HAS MADE US TO BE A KINGDOM AND PRIESTS TO SERVE HIS GOD AND FATHER — TO HIM BE GLORY AND POWER FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN.

Look, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all peoples on earth will mourn because of Him. So shall it be! Amen.

“I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA,” SAYS THE LORD GOD, “WHO IS, AND WHO WAS, AND WHO IS TO COME, THE ALMIGHTY.”

***HYMN**

Worship Christ, the Risen King

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A prayer of Martin Luther, in unison

ALMIGHTY GOD, THROUGH THE DEATH OF YOUR SON YOU HAVE DESTROYED SIN AND DEATH, AND BY HIS RESURRECTION YOU HAVE RESTORED INNOCENCE AND EVERLASTING LIFE, THAT WE MAY BE DELIVERED FROM THE DOMINION OF EVIL, AND OUR MORTAL BODIES BE RAISED FROM THE DEAD. FORGIVE OUR SINS, WE PRAY, AND GRANT THAT WE MAY BELIEVE THIS GOOD NEWS, THAT FINALLY WITH ALL YOUR SAINTS, WE MAY SHARE IN THE JOYFUL RESURRECTION OF THE JUST, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON OUR LORD, AMEN.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*unison*)

I John 1:5-9

"THIS IS THE MESSAGE WE HAVE HEARD FROM HIM AND PROCLAIM TO YOU, THAT GOD IS LIGHT AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL. IF WE SAY WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM WHILE WE WALK IN DARKNESS, WE LIE AND DO NOT LIVE ACCORDING TO THE TRUTH; BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT, AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS HIS SON CLEANSSES US FROM ALL SIN. IF WE SAY WE HAVE NO SIN, WE DECEIVE OURSELVES, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN US. IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS."

"IN JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE FORGIVEN. AMEN."

***GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end. Amen, amen.*

ANTHEM

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing *Gordon Young*

*Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise;
That we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise.
Sing alleluia!*

*All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever,
Sing Jehovah's mighty power, praise Him forever.
Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.*

*So let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise;
That we may all with one accord Our joyful voices raise.
Sing alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:19-31

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

***HYMN**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

SERMON

A BREATH OF HEAVEN

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Colossians 1:15-20

JESUS CHRIST IS THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD, THE FIRSTBORN OVER ALL CREATION. FOR BY HIM ALL THINGS WERE CREATED: THINGS IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH, VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE, WHETHER THRONES OR DOMINIONS OR RULERS OR AUTHORITIES; ALL THINGS WERE CREATED THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM. HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, AND IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER. AND HE IS THE HEAD OF THE BODY, THE CHURCH; HE IS THE BEGINNING AND THE FIRSTBORN FROM THE DEAD, THAT IN EVERYTHING HE MIGHT BE PREEMINENT. FOR IN HIM ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD WAS PLEASED TO DWELL, AND THROUGH HIM TO RECONCILE TO HIMSELF ALL THINGS, WHETHER THINGS ON EARTH OR THINGS IN HEAVEN, BY MAKING PEACE THROUGH THE BLOOD OF HIS CROSS. AMEN.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS AND 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 TRESPASSES 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.

OFFERING

Offertory

To God Be the Glory

Albin Whitworth

*To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.*

*[REFRAIN] Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice;
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.*

*O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [REFRAIN]*

*Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see. [REFRAIN]*

**Doxology*

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!*

**Prayer of Dedication*

***HYMN**

The Day of Resurrection!

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "O Fillii et Filiae" Lynnwood Farnham
("O Sons and Daughters")*

**(the people standing, as able)*

PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!

Prelude lyrics by Fanny Crosby, 1869

Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O earth, His wonderful love proclaim!
Hail Him, Hail him! Highest archangels in glory!
Strength and honor give to His holy name!
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,
In His arms He carries them all day long.

[REFRAIN] Praise Him! Praise Him!
Tell of His excellent greatness;
Praise Him! praise Him!
Ever in joyful song!

Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
For our sins, He suffered, and bled, and died.
He our rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
Hail Him, hail Him! Jesus, the Crucified.
Sound His praises, Jesus Who bore our sorrows,
Love unbounded, wonderful, deep, and strong. [REFRAIN]

Praise Him, praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever!
Crown Him, crown Him! Prophet, and Priest, and King!
Christ is coming, over the world victorious,
Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong. [REFRAIN]

I JOHN 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the Word of life — the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us — that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Worship Christ, the Risen King

He has risen! He is not here. Mark 16:6

1. Rise, O Church, and lift your voic - es; Christ has con - quered
2. See the tomb where death had laid Him; Emp - ty now, its
3. Hear the earth pro - test and trem - ble; See the stone re -
4. Doubt may lift its head to mur - mur, Scoff - ers mock and
5. We ac - claim Your life, O Je - sus; Now we sing Your

death and hell. Sing as all the earth re - joic - es;
mouth de - clares: "Death and I could not con - tain Him,
moved with pow'r. All hell's min - ions may as - sem - ble,
sin - ners jeer; But the truth pro - claims a won - der
vic - to - ry. Sin and hell may seek to seize us,

Res - ur - rec - tion an - thems swell. Come and wor - ship,
For the throne of life He shares." Come and wor - ship,
But can - not with - stand His hour. He has con - quered,
Tho't - ful hearts re - ceive with cheer. He is ris - en,
But Your con - quest keeps us free. Stand in tri - umph,

come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the ris - en King!
come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the ris - en King!
He has con - quered; Christ the Lord, the ris - en King!
He is ris - en; Now re - ceive the ris - en King!
stand in tri - umph; Wor - ship Christ, the ris - en King!

TEXT: Jack W. Hayford
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart

A lower setting may be found at No. 754

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REGENT SQUARE
8.7.8.7.8.7.

JOHN 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you." And with that He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life a - new,
 2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Un - til my heart is pure,
 3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am whol - ly Thine,
 4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I nev - er die,

That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.
 Un - til with Thee I will one will, To do and to en - dure.
 Un - til this earth - ly part of me Glows with Thy fire di - vine.
 But live with Thee the per - fect life Of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch
 MUSIC: Robert Jackson

TRENTHAM
 S.M.

The Day of Resurrection!

Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. Matt. 28:9

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3. Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin;

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 let the round world keep tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from this world to the sky,
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 in - vis - i - ble and vis - i - ble, their notes let all things blend,

our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

John of Damascus, 8th cent.
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
 Henry Smart, 1836; alt. 1990

LYRICS TO "O Filii ET Filiae" postlude

English translation of the Latin lyrics

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O sons and daughters, let us sing!
The King of heav'n the glorious King,
O'er death today rose triumphing. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

That night the apostles met in fear;
Amidst them came their Lord most dear,
And said, "My peace be on all here." Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

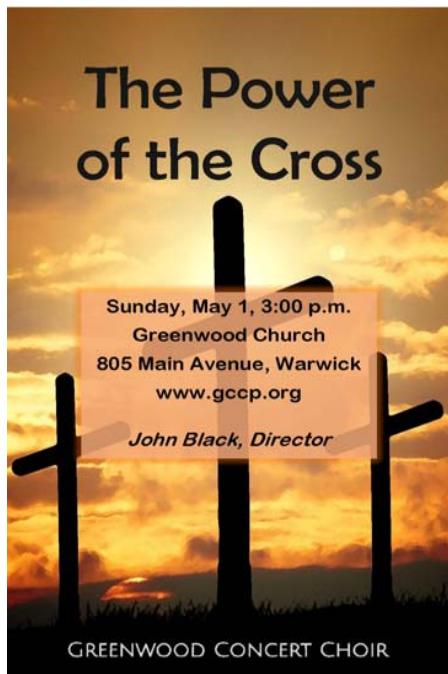
When Thomas, first the tidings heard,
How they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

"My wounded side, O Thomas, see;
Behold my hands, my feet," said He,
"Not faithless, but believing be." Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

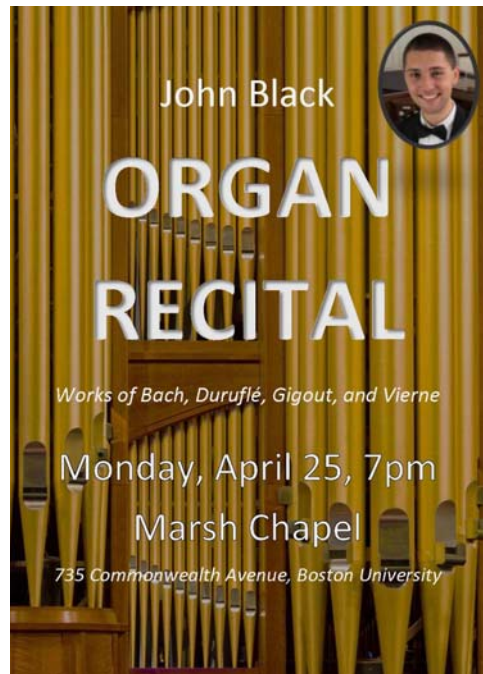
How blest are they who have not seen,
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall see. Alleluia!



**The Power
of the Cross**

Sunday, May 1, 3:00 p.m.
Greenwood Church
805 Main Avenue, Warwick
www.gccp.org
John Black, Director

GREENWOOD CONCERT CHOIR



John Black

**ORGAN
RECITAL**

Works of Bach, Duruflé, Gigout, and Vierne

Monday, April 25, 7pm
Marsh Chapel
735 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston University

WHAT IS RISUS PASCHALIS?

(excerpts from an April 23, 2017 sermon)

During the 15th century in southern Germany (Bavaria), a delightful custom sprung up in many of the churches. At the end of the "Sunday after Easter" church service, the priest would leave the altar and come down among the people and lead the congregation in what was called the "Risus Paschalis", which roughly translates as "the Easter laughter." (*"Osterlachen" in German*). The priest would tell funny stories and sing comical songs all illustrating some moral and spiritual point, and the congregation would resound with laughter (*Bavarians are somewhat stereotypically known as the funny and more social Germans; unlike their stereotypically serious and somber northern counterparts*).

Eventually this evolved into a regular annual practice, and the Sunday after Easter became known as **RISUS PASCHALIS SUNDAY**. Priests would include jokes and funny stories in their sermons, and would often play practical jokes on their parishioners throughout the week (*some of which, I'm told, could be pretty ribald!*). The congregation would join in the fun as well.

Why do this at Eastertide? Because it was a time to celebrate the big joke, the Ultimate fast one, that God "pulled" on the principalities and powers of darkness by the resurrection of Jesus. Think of it ... everyone was convinced Jesus was gone, dead, done away with for good. The Roman authorities thought so; they wouldn't have to worry now about any insurrection. The crowds that cried for Jesus' crucifixion thought so, in their minds this so-called Messiah was a charlatan and got what He deserved; they were now rid of him. The religious leaders thought so; they were convinced they had rid themselves of a perceived threat to their authority and a blasphemer. On a grander scale, the Bible intimates the unseen powers of darkness thought they had pulled off a grand triumph, for they believed they had frustrated the plans and purposes of God. The Son of God was now dead and in the tomb ... it's over. But, to quote Yogi Berra, *"It ain't over 'till it's over!"* God won the ultimate triumph over the principalities and powers of evil through the resurrection of His Son.

Unfortunately, the custom didn't last; Pope Clement X outlawed **Risus Paschalis** sometime in the 17th century ... I guess folks were having too much of a good time in church, and that shouldn't be! In recent times, though, some churches are resurrecting (*pun intended*) the observance of **Risus Paschalis**; in fact, eight years ago I went to one such service at a Presbyterian church in my home town.

GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN
805 MAIN AVENUE
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02886

April 24, 2022

WE WELCOME all who are worshipping in our sanctuary today; welcome, too, to all with us online! A special word of welcome to any visiting with us this morning; whether you are visiting us just for a day or looking for a new church home. Information packets are available in the narthex, or feel free to ask an usher if you have any questions. All are cordially invited to Coffee Hour downstairs following the service.



FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God by Bill Taylor in loving memory of his parents, Stewart and Ruby Taylor and by Karen, Christopher and Stephanie Allen in loving memory of Nancy Allen.

THE 2022 FLOWER CALENDAR: The following dates are still available to honor a loved one, mark a special occasion, or commemorate the memory of a dearly departed relative or friend and, in doing so, help beautify our sanctuary for worship: *May 29 (one), June 26 (both), July 10 & 17 (one), August 14 (one), August 28 (one), Sept. 11 (both), Sept. 25 (both), Oct. 2 & 9 (one), Oct. 16 & 23 (both), Oct. 30 (one), Nov. 13, 20 (one).* Call the church office (737-1230) to sign up for dates. **The cost is NOW \$20 per bouquet;** as with many commodities today, the cost of fresh flowers is rapidly rising, necessitating a \$5 increase.

ORGAN RECITAL: John Black performs works of Bach, Duruflé, Gigout, and Vierne on the Casavant Opus 2000 organ of **Marsh Chapel at Boston University Monday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.** The hour-long program includes some of the most difficult pieces in the organ repertoire, including the Bach F Major Toccata and Fugue and the Duruflé Toccata. The recital is free and open to the public, offered in-person only.

SPRING CONCERT: Join us **Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.** as the Greenwood Concert Choir presents an afternoon of sacred music in celebration of the resurrection and in prayer for the spiritual state of our nation and world. Enjoy grand, joyful settings of favorite hymns and special offerings from our Handbell Choir, Youth Choir, and instrumentalists. Free admission; freewill offering collected. In person ONLY. Video recording available upon request by emailing music@gccp.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAVE THE DATES! July 18 - July 22. We can't wait to explore a new EXPERIENCE and have a blast at VBS this year! Ages: four through entering grade 6. More information to follow.



P.E.O. Chapter A-RI

Spring Flower Hanging Basket Fundraiser



April 30, 2022

10 – 3pm

Greenwood Community Church Presbyterian
805 Main Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886

Cash or Check only.
We don't have the means
to accept Credit Cards.



Supplied by:

