



WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF DETROIT



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17567 Hubbell Ave

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Sunday, June 25, 2023
4th Sunday after Pentecost

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Prelude on 'Nettleton'

Michael Burkhardt

Welcome to all – especially to our guests.

Hymns labeled GTG are in the Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Hymns labeled AAHH are in the African American Heritage Hymnal (beige)

Hymns labeled OLOFOB are for your listening pleasure.

**Please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

God cares for us completely
and calls for our total commitment.

**Christ gave his life that we might live
and calls us to give our lives to him.**

Through Christ we have died to sin;
in Christ we are fully alive to God.

Come, let us worship God.

Gospel Praise

City Called Heaven

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac,
God of Hagar and Ishmael,
who gave us your Son,
Jesus Christ the crucified,
send your Holy Spirit to help us confess
and truly repent of our sins.**

**We turn against one another;
we fail to care for the weak and poor among us.**

**We pay no heed to the cries of the powerless;
we seek our own advantage.
Your Son emptied himself
upon a Roman cross
and revealed your eternal, self-giving love.
Forgive us, merciful God.
Wipe sin from our lives and let us find ourselves
wholly in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
It is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

Declaration of God's Forgiveness

Passing of the Peace/A Time for Celebration

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

(Exchange signs of Christ's peace and forgiveness with others. We greet one another as neighbors in Christ. You may say "Peace be with you," or respond, "And also with you.")

Response GTG #39

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed they hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Romans 6: 1b-11

Anthem

Greater Love Hath No Man
Chancel Choir
Melinda Younkin & Sean Neall, soloists

John Ireland

Second Reading

Genesis 21: 8-21

Message

Thwarting God's Promises

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***Affirmation of Faith**

We Believe: God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

That God, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged.

That God calls the church to follow God in this;

for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.

That God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind.

That God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly.

That for God, pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering.

And that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right.

***Hymn AAHH# 143**

His Eye is on the Sparrow

Call to Offering

We are cautious as we gather for worship. We are not currently passing an offering plate. We have placed an offering plate outside the sanctuary where you may place your offerings.

Invitation to Offering

Prayer of Dedication

***Doxology GTG #606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
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. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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 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.**

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn GTG #246**

Christ is Alive!

***Benediction**

Postlude

Riguadon

André Campra

(The organ postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshipping.)

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Karen Stunkel, Interim Pastor
Mr. Dalos Grobe, Organist/Choir Director
Mr. Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
George Getschman, Liturgist

Today's Anthem

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus; ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. That ye should show forth the praises of Him Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Liturgy reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion*

143 HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW

Look at the birds... they neither sow nor reap, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
 Matthew 6:26

1. Why should I feel dis-cour-aged, Why should the shad-ows
 2. "Let not your heart be trou-bled," His ten-der word I
 3. When ev-er I am tempt-ed, When ev-er clouds a-

come, Why should my heart be lone-ly, And
 hear, And rest-ing on His good-ness, I
 rise, When songs give place to sigh-ing When

long for heav'n and home; When Je-sus is my
 lose my doubts and fears; Though by the path He
 hope with-in me dies, I draw the clos-er

por-tion? My con-stant Friend is He:
 lead-eth, But one step I may see; His
 to Him, From care He sets me free;

eye is on the spar - row, And I know He watch - es

me; His eye is on the spar - row, and I

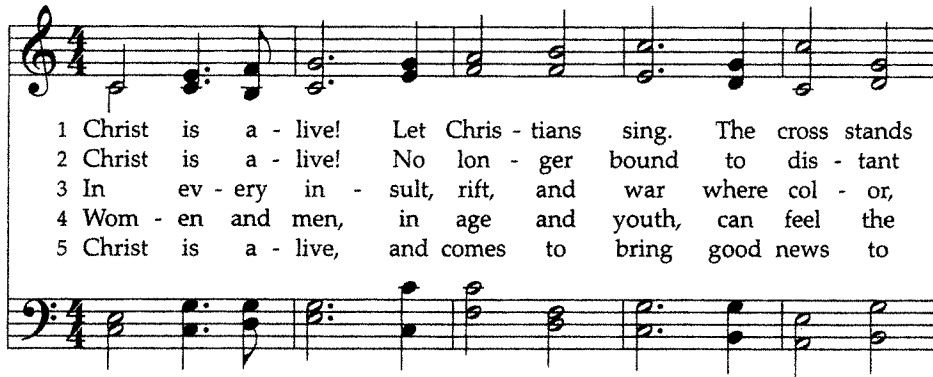
know He watch - es me. I sing be-cause I'm

hap - py, I sing be-cause I'm free; For His

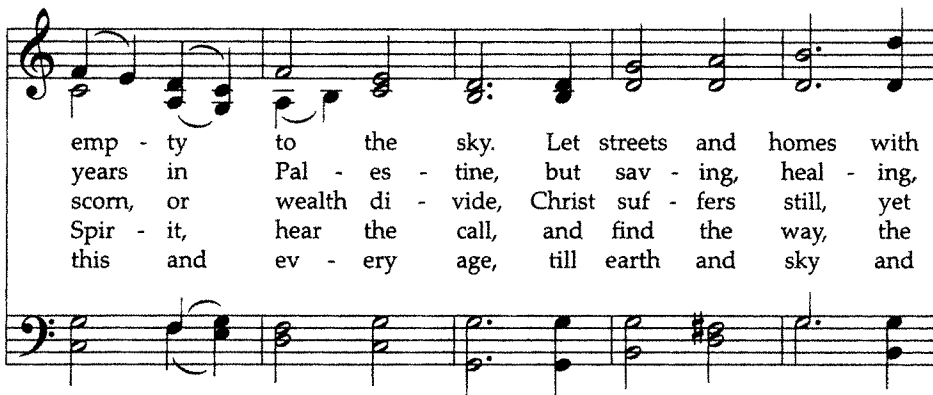
eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.

Christ Is Alive!

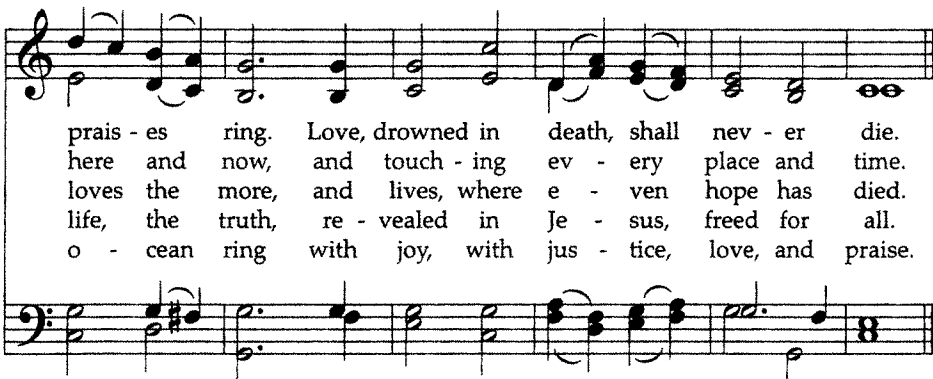
246



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.