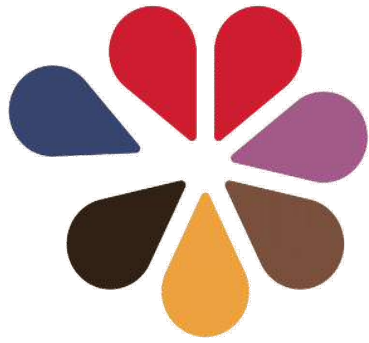




DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We live into Jesus' inclusive
call to love every person,
care for creation,
and work for God's justice.

Celebration of Worship

April 27, 2025, 11:00 AM

The Second Sunday of Easter

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

An Alleluia Groove in G

Dorian

Words of Welcome

John DeHority

Announcements

Nancy Brown

Chime

*Introit

○ Children All, Together Sing

○ FILII ET FILIAE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

○ children all, together sing with heavenly hosts our praises bring;

For lo the grave has lost its sting! **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

That Easter morn, at dawn of day, the faithful women went their way

To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

An angel clad in white they see, who sits, and speaks unto the three,

"Your Lord will go to Galilee." **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

That night the apostles met in fear; among them came their Lord most dear,

And said, "My peace be with you here." **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Atytr. Jean Tisserand (15th c.), Trans John Mason Neal, 1852, alt. LW

*Call to Worship

Psalm 119

Nan C. Merrill

One: We give thanks to You, O Beloved, for You are kind; your steadfast Love endures forever!

Many: Let every nation proclaim, "Your steadfast Love endures forever."

One: You opened to me the gates of truth and justice, that I might enter through them. Praise to You, O Merciful One!

Many: This is the Door to Life; those who know Love shall enter through it.

One: I give thanks to You, O Beloved, who answers our prayers and Invites us to new Life.

Many: The stone which the builders rejected has become the foundation of our lives.

One: This O Eternal Listener, is Your Work; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Many: This is the day which You have made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Hymn

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

(Music may be found on page 7.)

Centering Prayer (unison)

Great God of all life, as dawn slowly dispels darkness of night, so Your wondrous love enlightens our fearful spirits. With inner eyes of faith we see Christ rising from the stone-free cave: that spiritual power dispelling the power of death, bringing mourners joy, casting out hatred and vengeance, restoring lost innocence, humbling human arrogance, and bringing us a genuine peace. May the Morning Star which never sets find our flames of hope yet burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who rose from the Darkness of death, and bathed all creation in peaceful light, live and love forever and ever. Amen.

Reading

"Dawn of Day" (see insert)

Rosalind Russell

Time with Children and Youth

Music for Reflection

All Things New

Elaine Hagenberg

*"Light after darkness, gain after loss,
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
Home after wandering, praise after tears.*

*Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end,
He is making all things new.*

*Springs of living water shall wash away each tear,
He is making all things new.*

*Sight after mystery, sun after rain,
Joy after sorrow, peace after pain;
Near after distant, gleam after gloom,
Love after loneliness, life after tomb."*

Text: Frances Havergal

Scripture

John 20:19-31

Sermon

"The Doors Were Locked"

John DeHority

*Hymn

Come! Live in the Light!
(Music may be found on page 8.)

WE ARE CALLED

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

Our Creator, 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.

Invitation to the Offering:

The most lavish gifts we can bring are never enough to thank God for all we have received. Yet the tiniest offerings we present do not escape God's notice when presented with full commitment and devotion. Let us give as we are able.

Offertory Music

Let Your Faith Be Stronger Than Your Fear

Tom Trenney

*"In the deserts of your life, I'll not desert you. I will wake a way beside a flowing stream.
Through the valley, do not fear, for I am with you; My rod and staff to comfort and redeem.
In the darkness of your life, I will not leave you. In the shadow, I'm your light, your lamp, your sun.
I will be the star that shines above to guide you, a light unto your path to lead you on.*

*Ref: Do not be afraid, I go before you. Do not be afraid, I am by your side.
Be still and know that I am with you. Let your faith be stronger than your fear.*

*When you're weary, when you're faint, I will be with you. I will raise you up to soar on eagle's wings.
I will be the joy that seeks you through your sorrow. Unending hope my resurrection brings.*

*When the storms of life assail, I will uphold you. I will strengthen you; I'll be the help you need.
Though the waters rage and foam, fear not, I'm with you. I am the way, the truth, the life, indeed!*

Carolina Sullivan, soloist, Text: Tom Trenney

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Thank you, God, for resurrection. May we, along with our financial gifts, testify to the good news of your forgiving love and empowering acceptance. Amen.

Hymn

Alleluia! Laud and Blessing
(Music may be found on page 9.)

WEISSE FLAGGEN

***Benediction (responsive)**

from the Louisville Presbyterian Theological
Seminary Baccalaureate 1995

Because the world is poor and starving, **go with bread.**
Because the world is filled with fears, **go with courage.**
Because the world is in despair, **go with hope.**
Because the world is living lies, **go with the truth.**
Because the world is sick with sorrow, **go with joy.**
Because the world is weary of wars, **go with peace.**
Because the world is seldom fair, **go with justice.**
Because the world is under judgment, **go with mercy.**
Because the world will die without it, **go with love.**

Selections from Firework Music George Frederick Handel
I. Overture & II. The Rejoicing Arr. E. Power Biggs

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Liturgist: Nancy Brown
Chancel Choir Members

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Leah Rosenman

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHORITY, Elijah Gebers,
Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

All music and musical texts in this bulletin are reprinted with permission under One License, License # A-707805 and CCLI License # 21572398

Sunday, April 27

10:00AM	Choir Warm-up
10:45AM	Nursery
11:00AM	Worship - John DeHORITY
11:15AM	Sunday School
12:00PM	Refreshments in Sanctuary
7:00PM	Sophia Circle via Zoom

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study, Zoom

7:00PM Choir Practice

Thursday, May 1

7:15PM Worship Team Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, May 4

9:45AM Sunday Forum-BMISS
Update!

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship - Rev. Christine
James

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231



1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
 2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
 3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
 Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
 all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
 Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.
 Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
 He whose word in-spired cre - a - tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
 ev - i - dence of trans - for - ma - tion in which God is known and seen.



Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called

G C D G

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that

C D Em

joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,

Em7 C G Am7

to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as chil - dren of

G C Dsus D

free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 God u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain G C D C D G C

We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to

D Em Em7 C D

love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -

C D G C D C G

oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

755 Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

(Psalms 111 and 112)

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Laud and bless-ing to our God, whose Word is sure;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! God sus-tains us; match-less are the gifts we share;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Ho - ly Par - ent, all your chil-dren now re-claim;

by whose grace we find re - demp-tion, in whose love we live se - cure.
 light in dark-ness, hope in con - flict, an-swears to our deep-est prayer.
 may our lives re - flect your jus - tice, heirs to your most sa-cred name.

Righ-teous-ness and rich com-pas-sion shall at-tend us all our days;
 Ours to give as we are giv-en: arms to lift when oth-ers fall;
 Fill our hearts with un-der-stand-ing, brace our weak-ness by your might;

may God's prom-ise to be faith-ful ech-o through our songs of praise!
 im - ag - es of God's great good-ness, faith-ful ser - vants to God's call.
 awe-some hon-or, born in wis-dom; your great glo-ry, our de-light!

Psalms 111 and 112 are appropriately brought together in this paraphrase. Both form acrostics: each poetic line begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. In addition, both psalms begin with "hallelujah," and they share much vocabulary as well as a theme of praise.

TEXT: Michael Morgan, 2011

MUSIC: *Tochter Zion*, 1741

Text © 2011 Michael Morgan (admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources)

WEISSE FLAGGEN

8.7.8.7.D



Sunday Forums in May 2025

“We Live Into Jesus’ Inclusive Call”

May 4 - Building Minds in South Sudan (BMISS) Update!

Sebastian Maroundit

Come hear about the ongoing work, the challenges, the progress, and the joy and fulfillment experienced because of the work BMISS continues to do. Sebastian will provide an update on the schools, the new well, and the people whose lives are being positively affected.



May 11 - Implicit Bias (Part 1)

David Scott, Chief Diversity Officer, Monroe County Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Join us a half hour earlier at *9:15AM and take part in this special 90 minute Forum led by skilled facilitator David Scott. What is Implicit Bias and how do we recognize and work to overcome it? His professional and nonjudgmental approach has been commended by staff and congregation members who have recently worked with him.

May 18 - Implicit Bias (Part 2)

David Scott, Chief Diversity Officer, Monroe County Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Come again at *9:15AM for this special 90-minute Forum that will build on the information and work done the previous Sunday. You will want to come for both Sundays, but you need not attend the first one to attend Part Two.



May 25 - No Sunday Forum—Memorial Day Weekend

Sundays, *9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

(*Unless otherwise indicated)

We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available. Drop-off starts at 10 a.m. in the library. The nursery is in C-23.

Children in Sunday School will attend worship and are invited to "Time with Our Children and Youth" for a brief time with the pastor, and then will be taken up to their classroom by their teacher. Parents are welcome to come up as well.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns– If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person(s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The prayer requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist	Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper & Receptionist Coordinator
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician	Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations	Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Alan Jones, Associate Musician	Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Kristie Jones, Office Administrator	Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
David Mear, Business Manager	Ed Verna, Maintenance
Moses Nhial, Maintenance	Lee S. Wright, D.M.A., Director of Music Ministry
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator	

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler, Moderator	Lea Kone	Jim Vesper
Nancy Brown	Bob Richane	Pat Tweet
John DeHority	Sally Allison	Mary Rees
	Sam King	

Deacons

Bob Carlisle	Jacque Hancock	Becky Parks
Andrea Folan	Elizabeth Katz	Susan Richane
Helen Ganotis	Stephen Lloyd	Kelley Sheils
Cindy Hamilton	Grania Marcus	Marilyn Terpening
	Sandy Morales	

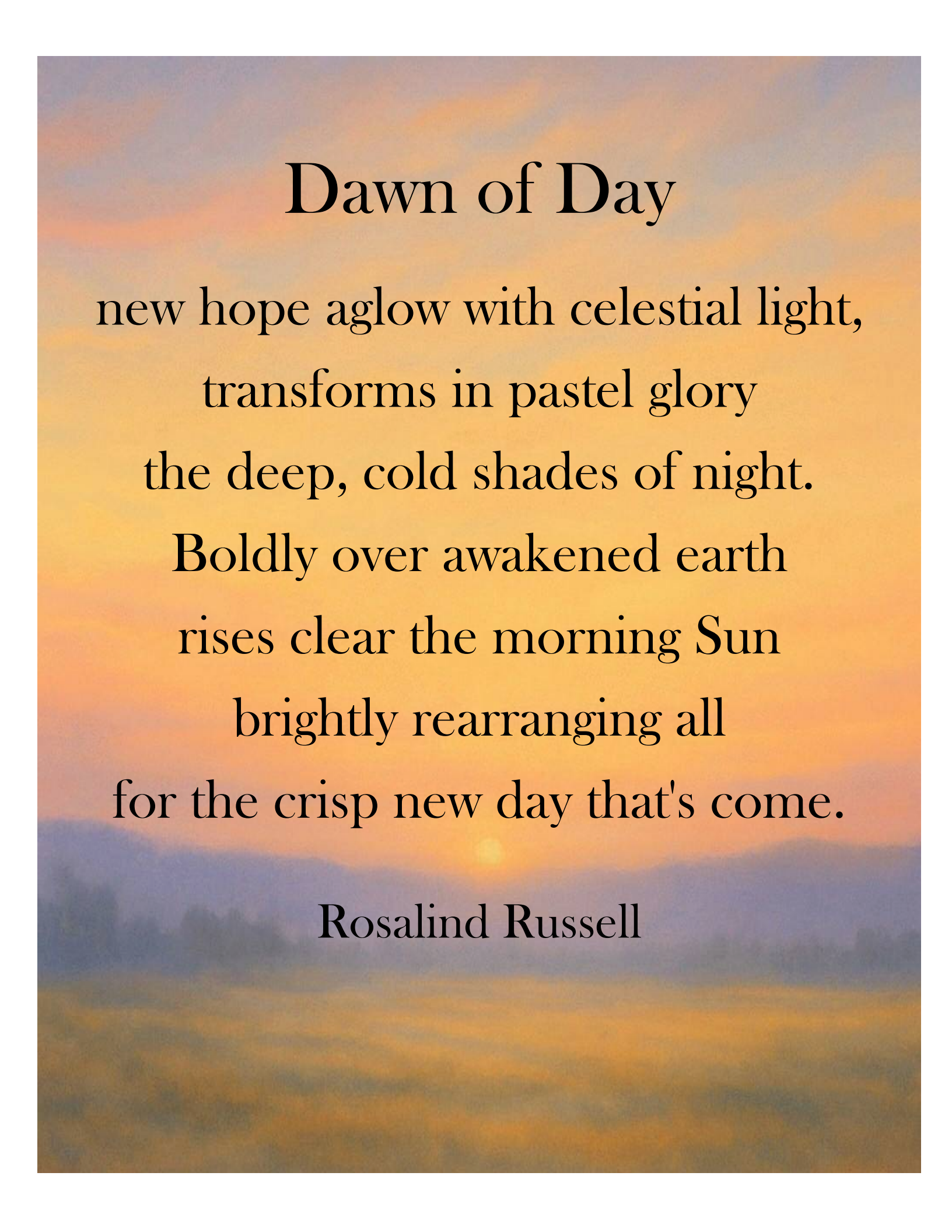
121 N. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY 14614

Telephone: (585) 325-4000

email: office@DowntownPresbyterian.org

www.DowntownPresbyterian.org





Dawn of Day

new hope aglow with celestial light,
transforms in pastel glory
the deep, cold shades of night.
Boldly over awakened earth
rises clear the morning Sun
brightly rearranging all
for the crisp new day that's come.

Rosalind Russell

Participatory Guide to the Alleluia Groove Prelude!

Any of these prompts may be used in any order. You need not be compelled to make constant sound. Silence is also a valid contribution to the texture. Whatever we create together is perfect, and will only happen once—exactly how God has dreamed it into creation.

- * Hum the note that sounds like home [G]; sing it on different vowels—from more closed (oo) to open (ah);
- * Use it to chant or speak the words: alleluia—alleluia—alleluia—alleluia—alleluia (soft-loud-soft) start at a different time than the people around you, so that there is an undulating wave of “alleluias;” some sung, some spoken.
- * Use body percussion to emphasize the beat—getting louder as the music intensifies, and softer as it becomes more tranquil
- * Create a rhythm using your breath—sharp exhales, soft sighs, or gentle whooshes—letting your breath become part of the groove
- * Add your own wordless melody (with your voice or an instrument) inspired by the alleluia—a rising phrase, a wandering tone, something playful or prayerful (hint for musicians: use a G dorian scale: G-A-Bb-C-D-E-F-G)
- * Echo someone near you—pick up on their rhythm, their melody, their energy—and offer it back with your own flavor
- * Try moving—swaying, rocking, stepping gently in place, or letting your hands dance in the air as an extension of the sound
- * Listen deeply. Let the soundscape wash over you, and when you're ready, let your voice return like a bird joining the dawn chorus

There's no wrong way to join in. The Spirit moves in freedom. Whether you're bold or quiet, steady or spontaneous, your offering is sacred. Let your soul sing and your spirit dance. Let your silence hold space.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.