



CAL-PAC CONFERENCE WORSHIP

April 11, 2021

ALL ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONLINE (Video): 10:00 AM

<https://facebook.com/firstchurchriverside/live>

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: *“Way Maker”* / Pancakes & Praise Band Cover (First UMC of Honolulu)

CALL TO WORSHIP / Mele Maka, Conference Lay Leader

Come, let us gather in the one unifying Spirit, unite us Lord by your everlasting love.

We welcome the one who doubts.

We welcome the one who says, “unless I see, unless I touch.”

We welcome those who have heard the good news, the ‘Resurrection News’
and are filled with fear locked away isolated one from another in distant virtual spaces.

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live, gather, and worship in unity!

We’ve come to worship in Spirit and truth, with joy and thanksgiving.

Come let us worship the risen Lord.

(written by Rev. Alma Johnson-Hawkins)

UNISON OPENING PRAYER / Rev. Christy Clark

Mighty God, Living God,

Your eternal love is so deep, so broad, so high, and beyond all thought and imagination.

**You made the world in beauty and restore all things in glory through the birth, life,
crucifixion, death, and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

Give us a spirit of kindness to welcome all people in fellowship and generous affection,

**Teach us to keep faithful witness and boldly proclaimed the good news of Jesus’
resurrection. As we move through every sorrow, trial, and uncertainty of this life,**

**strengthen, and uphold us with knowledge of the final morning when, in the glorious
presence of your risen Son, we will share in his resurrection. Amen**

(written by Rev. Alma Johnson-Hawkins)

OPENING HYMN: UMH 158 *"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"* (Words by Christian Henry Bateman. Music trad. melody, arr. by Benjamin Carr, harm. by Austin Lovelace) / Church of the Good Shepherd

Verse 1

Come, Christians, join to sing:
Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ our King:
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

Verse 2

Come, lift your hearts on high:
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky:
Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend;
to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!

Verse 3

Praise yet the Lord again:
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain:
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore:
Alleluia! Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 4:32-35 / Marissa Wells, Conference Staff

³²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

SOLO: *"Graves into Gardens"* / Valerie Hungalu (Guam UMC)

SERMON: "WITH GREAT POWER" / Rev. Kristie Grimaud (Foothills UMC)

RESPONSE MUSIC: "Ofa Ta'emalau (Indescribable Love)" / Valerie Hungalu (Guam UMC)

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Rev. Alma Johnson-Hawkins, Conference Staff

Acts 4:32-35 is a passage of scripture that encourages us to love and care for each other in unity as the Church. We read about the generosity of the believers, holding nothing back – giving all. In these challenging times I come asking you to make an offering. In these times when some are battling illness, faced with losing homes, jobs, family members, loved ones, friends, and other resources I come asking you to make an offering. In these challenging times I come with the reminder that worship, praise, and making an offering to God are essential to our faith. In these challenging times I ask you to make an offering to your home church.

Holy One, we proclaim that Jesus, the Messiah, lives again. Yet, our thoughts are quickly cluttered with finite, insignificant activities, and agendas. Instead of remaining focused on the abundance of divine transformation, we return to a pessimistic mindset of scarcity. Refocus our attention on the joy of Easter, so that we may recognize all that we have received and be led to give cheerfully. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. John 20:19-31

Adapted from www.DavidSBell.org.

CLOSING HYMN: UMH 364 "Because He Lives" (Words by Gloria and William Gaither; Music by William Gaither) / Church of the Good Shepherd

Verse 1

**God sent his Son,
they called him Jesus;
he came to love,
heal, and forgive;
he lived and died
to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there
to prove my Savior lives.**

Refrain

**Because he lives,
I can face tomorrow;
because he lives,
all fear is gone;
because I know
he holds the future,**

and life is worth
the living
just because he lives.

Verse 2

How sweet to hold
a newborn baby,
and feel the pride
and joy he gives;
but greater still
the calm assurance,
this child can face
uncertain days
because he lives.

Refrain

Because he lives,
I can face tomorrow;
because he lives,
all fear is gone;
because I know
he holds the future,
and life is worth
the living
just because he lives.

Verse 3

And then one day
I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's
final war with pain;
and then as death
gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights
of glory
and I'll know he reigns.

Refrain

Because he lives,
I can face tomorrow;
because he lives,
all fear is gone;

**because I know
he holds the future,
and life is worth
the living
just because he lives.**

BENEDICTION / Rev. Ed Hansen

The God of peace,
who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you complete in every good gift so that you may do God's will.
May God work among us
all that which is pleasing in God's sight through Jesus Christ,
to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Heb. 13:20, 21.

POSTLUDE: *"Trading My Sorrows"* / Pancakes & Praise Band Cover (First UMC of Honolulu)