2nd Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025



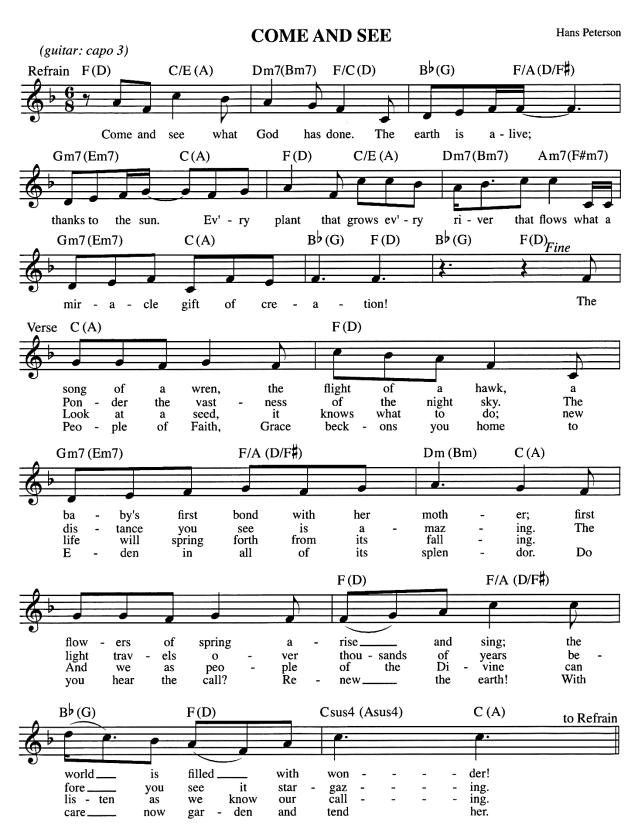


www.riverofhopehutchinson.org Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Opening Song: "Come and See"



©2007 Dakota Road Music All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission. Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes * Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit, is with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day:

One Voice:

God formed Adam out of clay and blew into their nostrils the breath of life.

One Voice:

Jesus came and stood in their midst.
He too breathed on them.
He gave them
the Holy
Spirit.

All:

Christ Jesus,
We also long for your Spirit and your peace.
Create new hearts in us
and fill us with your
very own
life.

Breathe your Spirit upon us. Amen.

— written by Anne Osdieck, and posted on <u>The Center for Liturgy</u> of Saint Louis University, adapted

Greet Someone New

Music to bring us back together: "Come and See" (Chorus)

Children's Time

THE STORY

(Reader): You are invited to follow along in your Bibles for this reading from the book of Acts chapter 5 verses 27-32. Throughout the Sundays of the fifty days of Easter, passages from Acts proclaim the ongoing power of Christ's resurrection, which is not a single day's event, but is the continuing power of God in the believing community. In this excerpt, the believers continue the ministry of Christ by testifying publicly to his death and resurrection with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

(Reader): 27 When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28 saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." 29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. 30 The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. 31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

(Reader): Our story and God's story continues today with our second reading from the Gospel of John, Chapter 20, verses 19-31. You are invited to stand in body or in spirit as we sing to welcome the Gospel.

SONG OF THE WORD "Canticle of the Sun" vs. 1, 2, 5, 3



ional additional verses

Praise to you, O God most high. From sister moon and stars of night. You light up heaven clear and fair. Creating beauty ev'rywhere. Constellations circling the sky. (echo)

Brother wind, he praises you. With rain clouds and with clear sky blue. Storms blow in and then relent. Your creatures find their nourishment. Sister water pours out precious praise. (echo) (Reader): When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

(Side 1): "Peace be with you."

(Reader): After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again,

(Side 2): "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

(Reader): When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them.

(Side 1): "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

(Reader): But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him,

(Side 2): "We have seen the Lord."

(Reader): But he said to them,

(Side 1): "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

(Reader): A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

(Side 2): "Peace be with you."

(Reader): Then he said to Thomas,

(Side 1): "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

(Reader): Thomas answered him,

(Side 2): "My Lord and my God!"

(Reader): Jesus said to him,

(ALL): "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

(Reader): Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

(Reader): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Pastor Hans Peterson

SONG OF THE DAY - "God of Stars and Distant Planets"

GOD OF STARS AND DISTANT PLANETS Hans Peterso (guitar: capo 3) Bb (G) Bb/C (Asus4) F (D) C (A) Dm (Bm) C(A)F(D) God of stars and dis - tant plan - ets, the far - thest reach-es _ Praise you God the cos mic art - ist daz-zling for beau - ty con Help find us with - in cre - a - tion, O God of crea-tures and (Bm) Bb(G) Dm F (D) Gm C (A) Dm (Bm) (Em) night. Lead us home dis - cov-er re you, our Liv - ing plex. Vi-brant col fill your im - age ors the can-vas; it re trees, a new way to grow with na-ture; sort out our wants and Bb (G) F/A (D/F#) C (A) Eb (C) G (E) Light. Ig - nite us with pas-sion a to be your liv ing flects. You step back from ea - sel your call what you good first needs. Trans - form our way of liv-ing, we pray in Je sus Bb (G) C(A)F (D) C (A) Dm (Bm) sparks. May di - ate we splen - dor, ra your rays of for saw. May all we gen er a - tions live with Turn that your name. our vi sion in to ac - tion F (D) C (A) Bb (G) Dm (Bm) F(D)C (A) F(D)

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Blessing of James Rathbun to River of Hope 2025

James will come to the front of the worship space along with his sponsors, perhaps between the altar and the baptismal font if there is room.

James' sponsors introduce James.

Pastor Hans will invite any serving on the River Table to come forward and bless James.

Christian community sends us into the lives of other people. James, we are grateful that the Holy Spirit has brought you into our lives and woven you into the fabric of the community of River of Hope. We thank God for you! And at this time, we would like to bless you.

Receive the sign of the cross on your shoulders that you may bear the gentle yoke of Christ. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your eyes, that you may see the light of Christ, illumination for the world. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your feet, that you may walk in the way of Christ, inspired by God's Holy Spirit. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your ears, that you may listen for Christ in your neighbor. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your hands, that you may do the work of Christ in your daily life. +

Receive the sign of the cross on your heart, that God may dwell there by faith. +

Pastor Hans: Welcome James!

All: Welcome to River of Hope and the purpose we share: to transform lives through Jesus Christ. We join with you in this walk of faith, no matter the twists and turns, and celebrate with you this life of following Jesus together. Thanks be to God!

Prayers for the World

Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each petition will close with the words: God, who is mercy:

Congregational response: **Hear our Prayer**

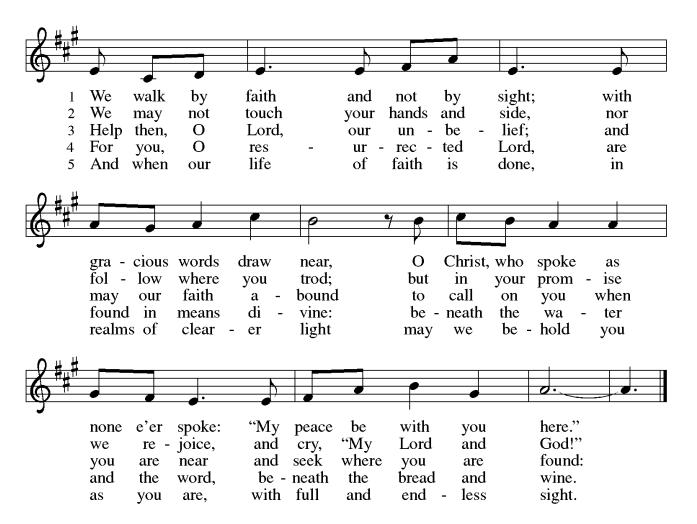
THE OFFERING



Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for "simply giving" or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can during April is for laundry and diapers for the Somali family that we are supporting. Any children willing to help are Invited to meet Pastor Hans in the back to bring forth the Communion elements.

Offering Song - "We Walk by Faith

We Walk by Faith



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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The Feast

Setting the Table

the children lead us as we say together:

Gracious God, we thank you for the food before us; the family beside us; the love between us; and your presence among us.

Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

(Leader): Our Creator, our Mother,

(ALL): 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth. So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

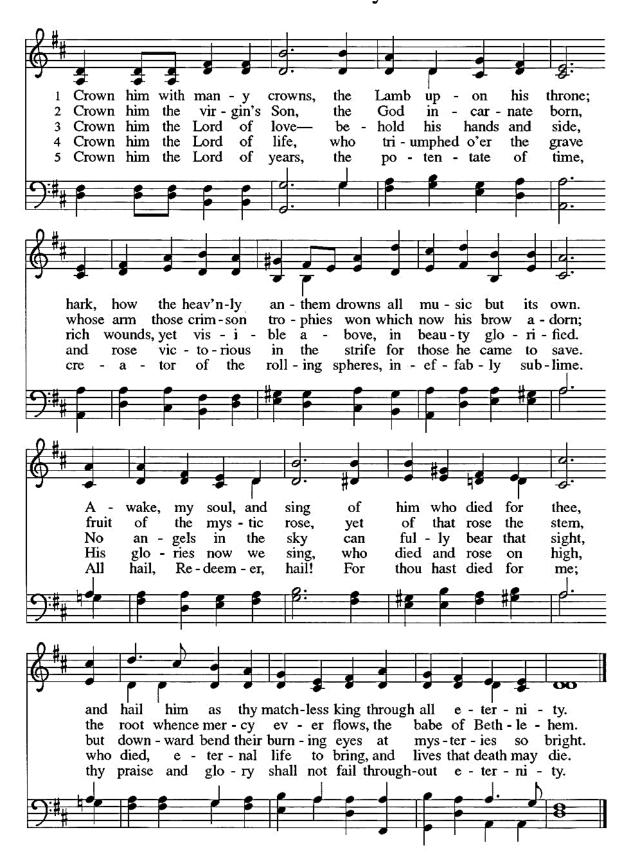
The gifts of God are...

(ALL): Free

Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Communion Songs: "Crown Him with Many Crowns", "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!"

Crown Him with Many Crowns



EASTER.

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!





Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

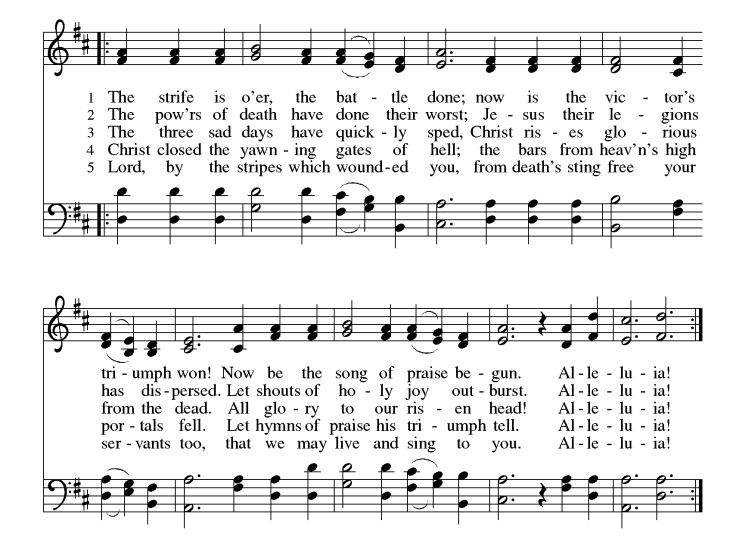
Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen**

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

MILESTONES! – "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done" vs. 1 It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.



BENEDICTION

May God our Creator bless and keep you, may Jesus, child of the earth, walk with you, and may the Holy Spirit, wind and fire, give you hope and peace.

Amen.

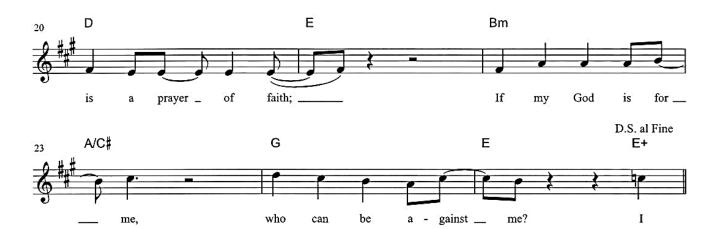
Sending Song: "I Walk By Faith"

(Invite children of all ages to come forward and play percussion during the Sending Song)

I Walk By Faith

Words and Music by Chris Falson





Dismissal

Go in peace, care for all creation.

Thanks be to God.

Music to Send You Out