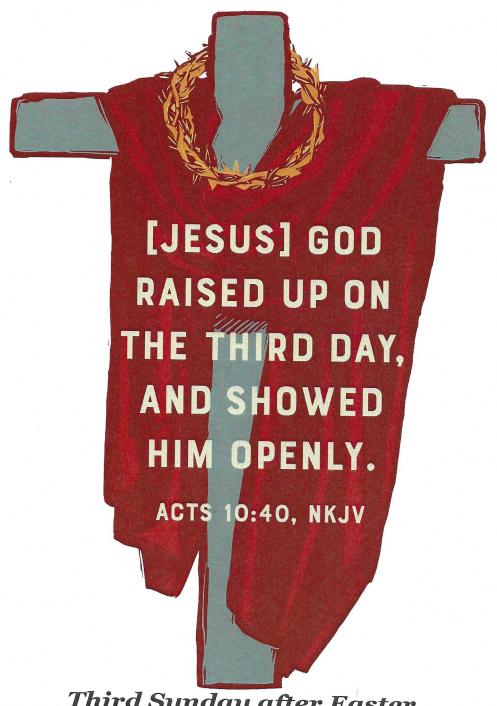
East Parish United Methodist Church

Established 1834

East Parish is a Church open to all, which nurtures and enables people to experience God's transforming love and serve others in Jesus'name.



Third Sunday after Easter April 18, 2021

The Book of Remembrance is opened to the Glory of God, in loving memory of Brandon Jeffrey Webber.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you wish to become a member of our church family, or to be baptized, contact Pastor Wichmann at nan_wich@bellsouth.net

* OPENING HYMN

"Thine Be the Glory"

#308 (insert)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Ministry Matters)

L: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer—

P: Who was anointed by the spirit of God to bring good news to the poor.

L: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer—

P: Who was crucified by the keepers of order for heeding the summons of God.

L: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer—

P: Who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit for bringing the reign of God to earth.

A: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer!

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

O God, who chased the gloom of the disciples with the gospel of Easter and drowned their desert of despair in a sea of grace, surprise us this day. Take from us the presumption that leans on our own strength instead of yours, that mistakes our wisdom for yours, and equates our will with yours. Assure us once again that our Lord's promise to be with us always still holds good. And be present with us now, as in the days of Jesus, to make us whole and to make us holy. Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48

SERMON

Pastor Nancy Wichmann

* HYMN

"Were You There?" (vs. 1, 2, 5)

#288 (insert)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to share your prayers of thanksgiving or petition. You may also send them to Pastor Wichmann at nan_wich@bellsouth.net; indicate whether or not they should be shared.

PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Gracious God, you give to us your greatest gift, your Only Begotten Jesus Christ, as we still do not understand what is going on. You call us to be people of courage and hope; and yet we run and hide, doubting and fearing. You challenge us to proclaim our faith; but we huddle in darkness whispering our words of discouragement. Shake us up, O God! Forgive us when we seem to need prodding over and over again. Help us to see the presence of Jesus in our lives; and remind us of all that He taught us, to help us to live as disciples, serving you by serving others. Change us! Remold us! Make us truly the disciples you have called us to be. AMEN. WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L. Please greet your neighbors with the blessing: "The peace of Christ be with you." **P. And also with you.**

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

* HYMN

"Christ for the World We Sing"

#568 (insert)

- * BENEDICTION
- * BENEDICTION RESPONSE "This is the Feast of Victory" #638 (insert) vs. 3 Antiphon

POSTLUDE

*Indicates that we rise in body or in spirit.

1 John 3:1-7

¹ See what love Abba God has lavished on us in letting us be called God's children! Yet that in fact is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized God. ² My dear friends, now we are God's children, but it has not been revealed what we are to become in the future. We know that when it comes to light we will be like God, for we will see God as God really is. ³ All who keep this hope keep themselves pure, just as Christ is pure.

⁴ Anyone who sins at all breaks the Law, because to sin is to break the Law. ⁵ Now, you know that Christ, who is sinless, appeared to abolish sin. ⁶ So everyone who lives in union with Christ does not continue to sin, but whoever continues to sin has never seen or known Christ. ⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray; to live a holy life is to be holy, just as Christ is holy.

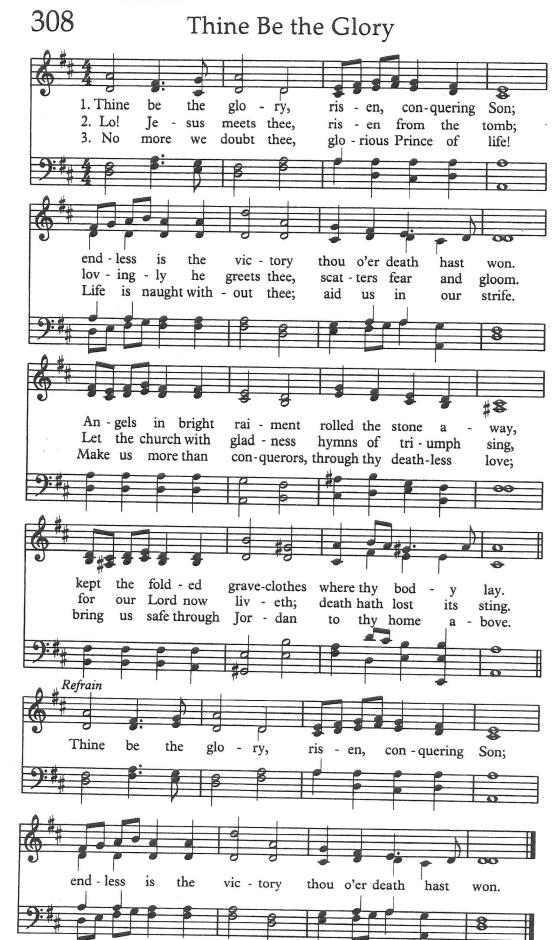
(The Inclusive Bible)

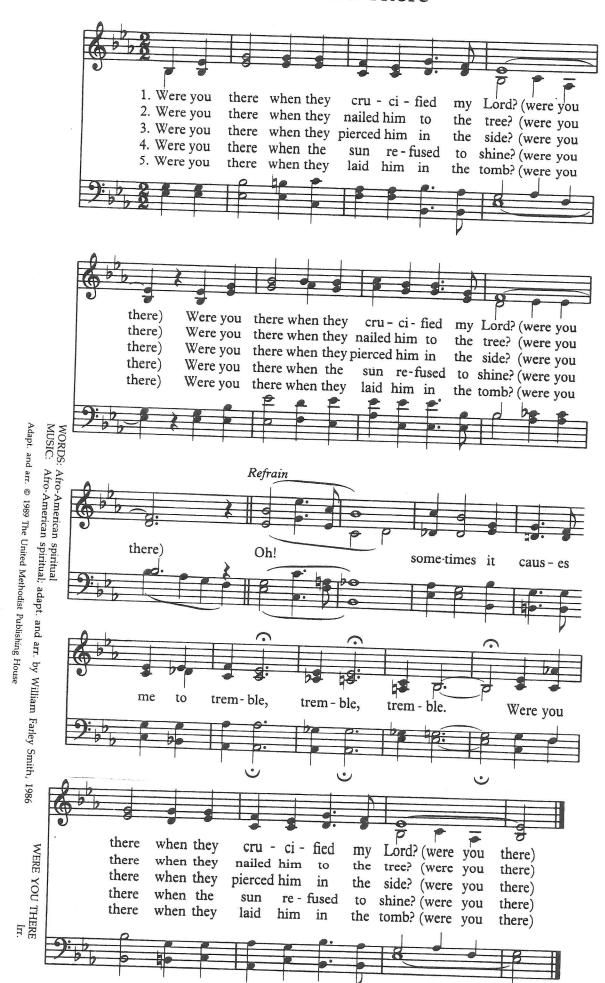
Luke 24:36b-48

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

(New Revised Standard Version)





Christ for the World We Sing



WORDS: Samuel Wolcott, 1869 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

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