



*Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope*  
**First Church in Windsor, UCC**

The Second Sunday of Easter: Earth Day  
Dare to Dance Again  
April 24, 2022, at 10 a.m.

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

*Lord of the Dance*  
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**Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance," said he.  
"I'll lead you all wherever you may be,  
I will lead you all in the Dance," said he.**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen and the Lord is here.

**People: Christ is risen and the Spirit is with us. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen for God has worked miracles and wonders.

**People: Christ is risen in glory forever. Alleluia!**

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance," said he.  
"I'll lead you all wherever you may be,  
I will lead you all in the Dance," said he.**

**Passing of the Peace**

Pastor: The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

**People: And also with you!**

*You are invited to turn to the people around you and wave to each other as a sign  
of graceful greetings this day.*

**\*Hymn**

*Thine Is the Glory*  
Music by G. F. Handel  
Words by Edmund L. Budry  
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**Thine is the glory, resurrected one!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won!  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded graveclothes where your body lay.  
Thine is the glory, resurrected one!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.**

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb,  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.  
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
For our Lord is living, death has lost its sting.  
Thine is the glory, resurrected one!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.**

**No more we doubt you, glorious prince of life,  
Life is naught without you, aid us in our strife.  
Make us more than conquerors, through your deathless love,  
Bring us safe through Jordan, to your home above.  
Thine is the glory, resurrected one!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation - You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing in our hearts and in this world. Tune us to each other. Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you –so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of our Savior**

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

**Anthem**

*All Things New*  
By Rory Cooney  
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**Children's Moment**

## Passing of the Peace

*Let us greet one another and share the peace of Christ by waving. For those joining us online, consider writing a comment under the livestream video or sending a message to a fellow member.*

## Scriptures

### **Nehemiah 2:17-18**

<sup>17</sup>Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace.” <sup>18</sup>I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, “Let us start building!” So they committed themselves to the common good. 1

### **John 20:19-22** (NRSV, adapted)

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, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw him. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

## Sermon

Pastor Nicole

“Weathering the Storm: Making Peace with the Created World”

## Video of the Week

“Dancing for All We’re Worth”

## \*Hymn

### *God of the Sparrow*

Words by Jaroslav J. Vajda

Music by Carl F. Schalk

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**God of the sparrow, God of the whale, God of the swirling stars,  
How does a creature say Awe, how does a creature say Praise?**

**God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave,  
How does a creature say Grace, how does a creature say Thanks?**

**God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook,  
How does a creature say Love, how does a creature say Peace?**

**God of the ages, God near at hand, God of the loving heart,  
How do your children say Joy, how do your children say Home?**

## Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Leader: For the beauty of the world in all its diversity, we give you thanks, O God.

Leader: Let us pray together...

**People: May our gratitude to you fill our days.**

Leader: We need your healing, O Holy One, for our troubled planet, for our nation, for all who are struggling in body, mind, relationships, and spirit.

**People: Come, O God, and restore our lives.  
Teach us to pray in the power of Easter,  
following Christ in a life resurrected,  
teach us to act with compassion and justice,  
teach us to dance with the beat of your heart.**

Leader: Be with each of us now.  
May the dance of your Spirit ever call us  
to engage with you and with the needs around us.  
Lead us; guide us; surround and fill us.

## Prayer Response

*Glory, Glory Hallelujah*  
African-American spiritual  
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**Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.  
Glory, glory, hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.  
I am dancing Miriam's dance now, since I laid my burdens down.  
I am dancing Miriam's dance now, since I laid my burdens down.**

## Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. If you wish, you may give online [here](#).

## Hymn

*All Good Gifts*  
Words and music by Stephen Schwartz  
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**We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.  
God sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.**

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all this love.**

**We thank thee then, Creator, for all things bright and good,  
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.  
No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts,  
but that which thou desirest, our humble, thankful hearts.**

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all this love.**

**\*Benediction**

And may the Loving God,  
Risen Christ,  
and Dancing Spirit  
fill you with all you need  
for the days ahead.

And all God's people said,  
**Amen!**

**Postlude**

*Rondeau*  
By Marin Marais  
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\*Please stand as you are able, **Bolded Font** to be read by all