

**April 26, 2020 ~ The Third Sunday of Easter**

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ The Rev. Paul V. Stunkel

**Prelude** ~ "Deep River" (arr. McDonald) ~ Leigh Emmett

**Call to Worship** ~ *responsive*

Leader: Call on the name of the Lord in praise;  
make known God's deeds among the nations!

**All: Sing to God with joyful songs;  
tell of God's wonderful deeds!**

**\*Praise #616** ~ "Our God Is an Awesome God"

*Our God is an awesome God who reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love; our God is an awesome God!* (repeat)

Leader: Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

**All: death no longer has dominion over him.**

*\*you are invited to stand as you are able*

**\*Hymn #240** ~ "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

**\*Prayer of the Day** ~ *in unison*

Lord of life,

submitting to death, you conquered the grave.

By being lifted on a cross, you draw all peoples to you.

By being raised from the dead,  
you restore to humanity all that we had lost through sin.

Throughout these fifty days of Easter  
we proclaim the marvelous mystery of death and resurrection.

For all praise is yours,  
now and throughout eternity. Amen.

**\*The Peace of Christ**

**Reflection with children**

**Breathing Prayer**

**Response #455** ~ "Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken"

*Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand;  
listen to the voice that began creation, listen even if you don't understand.* (repeat)

Acts 10:1-8 ~ in dialogue

**\*Chorus #452** ~ "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

Act 10: 24-29

**\*Chorus #452** ~ “Open the Eyes of My Heart”

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you.*

Act 10: 34-36, 44-48

**Message** ~ “Lawful vs. God’s Impartiality. How God keeps opening what was shut.”

**\*Hymn** ~ “Down to the River to Pray”

**Reaffirmation of Baptism** ~ *responsive*

Leader: There is One Body and One Spirit.

**All: We were baptized into One Body.**

Leader: We may be slaves or free, pagan or Jew,

**All: but together we are the Body of Christ.**

**Profession of Faith ~ Renunciations**

Leader: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,

do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**All: I do.**

Leader: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior,  
trusting in his grace and love?

**All: I do.**

Leader: Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple,  
obeying his Word and showing his love?

**All: I will, with God’s help.**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** ~ The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the  
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontus Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving over Water ~ Remember your baptism**

**I am baptized.**

**I am loved.**

**I am a child of God.**

**Anthem** ~ “*Let There Be Peace on Earth*”~ (J. Jackson-Miller/S. Miller)

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**The Lord’s Prayer** ~ *in unison*

**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 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.**

**\*Hymn #340** ~ “*This Is My Song*”

### **\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** ~ “*Down By the Riverside*” (arr. McDonald)

**CCLI #2342595 CVLI #502166520**

Long time member Janet Pridgeon died on Thursday, April 23. No services are scheduled. Expressions of sympathy may be sent in care of her daughter, Jill Lohr at 4161 W. Orchard Hill Dr., Bloomfield Hills 48304.

## **Adult Forum - Discovering Hope in the Psalms**

Please join us Sunday, April 26 - 9:00 – 10:00am!

Over the next few weeks, we will be looking for what Psalm 71 has to say to us about praying for God's help and living in continual hope in times of turmoil. We will be studying out of *Discovering Hope in the Psalms* is a "creative Bible Study Experience" by Pam Farrel, Jean E. Jones, & Karla Dornacher.

Those of you who have purchased the book, have that handy. Everyone have a Bible, a writing utensil and something to write on available for the class. If you have not purchased a book, contact me, Kathy Potter, at christianeducator@stpaulspresbyterian.church for help in obtaining a copy.

[Join Hangouts Meet](#)

meet.google.com/ofb-mozw-shc

[Join by phone](#)

+1 513-818-1609 PIN: 389 490 359#

## **After Church Hang Out!**      Sundays -11:30am – 12:00pm

*After Church Hang Out!* is St. Paul's time for our children and youth to meet up, talk, pray and hear about Jesus. We will hang out, sharing our life and faith. This week we will read a book by Patricia Polacco and see how it applies to our lives today! Hope to see you Sunday!

[Join Hangouts Meet](#)

meet.google.com/kbd-yuqx-kvh

[Join by phone](#)

+1 224-801-2537 PIN: 972 274 980#



Dear St. Paul's,

I hope this update finds you and your family in good health and staying safe. It is with deep sadness that I take note of how many people have suffered setbacks due to the ongoing crisis. Nevertheless, together we will persevere; we will come through this bent, but not bowed. And there is some truly good news to share that underscores that belief.

For those of you who haven't heard, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos made a very generous gift to Feeding America, which in turn divided it amongst scores of food distribution organizations across the country. Gleaners has received a portion of those funds, which are to be used immediately to support food distribution efforts. The vast bulk of it will be used to buy food, and a portion of it will be credited to our partner agencies in order to give them more resources for distributions as well. In this way, what is good for one is good for all.

In fact, Gleaners typically works with more than 500 partner agencies to help distribute food to over 100,000 households every month; the crisis has increased that number to approximately 150,000 households every month! That collaborative approach has its historical roots in Detroit community leaders and organizations brainstorming about how best to feed the hungry. In the late seventies that included Gene Gonya, Al and Midge Feliska, the Food Industry Council of the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Father John McGrail - Provincial of the Jesuit Community, and the Archdiocese of Detroit. They laid the groundwork for what would become Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Although many of our collaborative partners have changed with the passage of time, our overall vision remains the same: to end hunger in southeast Michigan. One of our more recent contributors, the nonprofit organization Catholic Foundation of Michigan, has included Gleaners as a charitable giving option on their own website for COVID-19 relief efforts. We thank them and the many other groups who have stepped up to help anyone and everyone in need—including Gleaners.

And on the subject of ‘good,’ Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan generously donated two new refrigerated vans to help Gleaners broaden the distribution of fresh milk. Given the national dearth of shelf-stable milk, these vans will help us leverage the abundance of fresh milk that has developed thanks to dairy farmers who are making it available to food banks for only the cost of packaging and shipping. This dramatically reduces the cost per gallon that Gleaners will have to pay, which means we can serve even more families in need during the crisis. In fact, the nation’s entire dairy and farming community deserves our thanks for everything they continue to do to feed people in need, even when they themselves are shouldering so much hardship.

Thank you, too, to General Motors for sending us more face masks last week. Despite having limited amounts on hand, we are distributing personal protection equipment (PPE) to as many partner agencies as possible.

Our expanded mobile distributions continue, and through this effort we have served 38,000 households since mid-March—a 40% increase over the same time last year. Given the current need and our level of activity, we’ve had to lease additional warehouse space in southwest Detroit for added storage and staging space to build quarantine food boxes.

Over the last two weeks, 10 National Guard members have been helping us build quarantine food boxes in our Pontiac warehouse. By April 20th we will have delivered 10,000 of those boxes statewide to 16 various Area Agencies on Aging for distribution to vulnerable seniors. This is a wonderful collaboration, especially because those agencies have the capacity and volunteer network needed to manage deliveries to individual homes.

Gleaners plans to continue our elevated level of operations for as long as needed. Moreover, we are carefully monitoring those needs and will increase our services accordingly. Some of our smaller partner agencies have been especially hard hit and have ceased operations because of illness from the coronavirus. This makes Gleaners’ mobile distributions more critical than ever.

If it weren’t for your support, none of this would be possible. For that, I can’t thank you enough. But I will be in touch again soon to let you know how, together, we are making progress.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gerry".

With gratitude,

Gerry Brisson, President & CEO

## 452 Open the Eyes of My Heart



O-pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O-pen the eyes of my heart;



I want to see you; I want to see you;



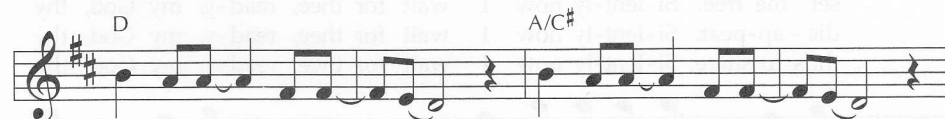
to see you high and lift - ed up,



shin-ing in the light of your glo - ry. Pour out your



pow-er and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly."



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, I want to see you.

The initial petition of this song is based on the language of Ephesians 1:18, while the second part draws on the account of Isaiah's vision in Isaiah 6:1-5. That event, in turn, is the basis of the threefold *Sanctus* that has become a traditional element in Christian worship.

## This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
 my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.



# 240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

*Refrain* E C#m F#m B

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B E

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B

- 1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

E C#m F#m B <sup>tr</sup> to Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

# DOWN TO THE RIVER TO PRAY

(DOWN TO THE VALLEY TO PRAY)

TRADITIONAL

♩ = 104

F/C B♭/D F C F/C

1. As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stud - y - ing a -  
 2. As I went down in the riv - er to pray, stud - y - ing a -  
 3. 4. 5. 6. See additional lyrics

C F Gm7/F Fsus F B♭/F F Dm F Dm/F

bout that good old way and who shall wear the  
 bout that good old way and who shall wear the

F Dm/F F C B♭ F *Fine*

star - ry crown. Good Lord, show me the way.  
 robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.

C Dm F Gm7/F F Dm/F F<sub>9</sub> B♭

O sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down,  
 O broth - ers, let's go down, let's go down,

2

B $\flat$  Dm/F F C F/C F

come on down \_\_\_\_\_ O sis - ters, let's go  
 come on down \_\_\_\_\_ O broth - ers, let's go

Gm7/F F F Csus4/F B $\flat$ /F B $\flat$  Gm/C C5 F *D.C. al Fine*

down, \_\_\_\_\_ down in the riv - er to \_\_\_\_\_ pray. \_\_\_\_\_  
 down, \_\_\_\_\_ down in the riv - er to \_\_\_\_\_ pray. \_\_\_\_\_

*Verse 3:*

As I went down in the river to pray,  
 studying about that good old way  
 and who shall wear the starry crown.  
 Good Lord, show me the way.

*(Chorus:)*

O fathers, let's go down,  
 let's go down, come on down.  
 O fathers, let's go down,  
 down in the river to pray.

*Verse 4:*

As I went down in the river to pray,  
 studying about that good old way  
 and who shall wear the robe and crown.  
 Good Lord, show me the way.

*(Chorus:)*

O mothers, let's go down,  
 let's go down, come on down.  
 O mothers, let's go down,  
 down in the river to pray.

*Verse 5:*

As I went down in the river to pray,  
 studying about that good old way  
 and who shall wear the starry crown.  
 Good Lord, show me the way.

*(Chorus:)*

O sinners, let's go down,  
 let's go down, come on down.  
 O sinners, let's go down,  
 down in the river to pray.

*Verse 6:*

As I went down in the river to pray,  
 studying about that good old way  
 and who shall wear the robe and crown.  
 Good Lord, show me the way.

*(Fine)*