

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 24, 2009

10:00 AM (ANNOUNCEMENTS AT 9:55)

MINISTERS:

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

PASTOR:

THE REV. JOHN DAVID HEECKT

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

JEAN EARLY

*“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen!”—Luke 24:5*

GATHERING AND PREPARATION

The Church Bell Calls Us To Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Introit: *This is the Day*

J. Cruger

\*Call to Worship (*The Exultet*)

One: Rejoice heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult all creation around God’s throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

One: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

One: Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God’s people!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

\*Hymn: *Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

NCH 55

\*Unison Prayer:

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the resurrection has established a new and better covenant for all your children: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ may show forth in their lives what they

profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

\*The Lord’s Prayer (*using “sins”*)

\*The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading:

Acts 1:15-17,21-26

Responsive Psalm:

Psalm 1

Second Reading:

John 17:6-19

Anthem:

*I Stand Here Forgiven*

R. Swain

Children’s Time

Sermon

RESPONDING IN FAITH

\*Hymn:

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Insert

Offering

Offertory:

*Behold I Stand*

Stephanie Trolle and Barbara Kapp, Soloists

Doxology:

PH 515

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God; in the gift of the resurrection of your Son you have given us life for death, joy for sorrow, confidence for fear, and hope for mourning. Receive now our gifts, we pray, and put them to your use, both in this congregation and beyond, for the support of your church, and to the honor of your holy Name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

*(\*Those who are able, please stand.)*

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The Lord's Table is open to all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people. Deacons ask parents to reflect on Communion's meaning with their children.*

### The Confession

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us stand together and confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**\*All:** Most merciful God; we confess that we are in bondage to sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways. Amen.

**\*One:** Almighty God has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. May the peace of God be always with you.

**\*All:** And also with you.

### The Communion Prayer

#### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

**\*Hymn:** *America the Beautiful* PH 440

#### Benediction

**Choral Response:** *Twofold Amen* R. Ramsey

#### Postlude

# RIDGEBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GATHERED IN 1760

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