

*We are a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith
seeking to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with our God.
Loving God...Changing Lives*



**OAK GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

2200 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington Minn. 55431
952-888-4621 | www.oakgrv.org

April 11, 2021

Holy Humor Sunday

10:45 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Thoughts to Ponder

Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God. – *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

A good laugh heals a lot of hurts. – *Madeleine L'Engle*

Welcome & Announcements

Mary Koon

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship*

Karen Gerdes

Sing a new song!

A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth.

Sing praise to our Still-Laughing Easter God.

Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday.

Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth.

We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat.

For God has taken ordinary things.

And made them extraordinary.

Sing a new song!

Opening Song No. 136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain ” (on screens)

Easter Version by Paul Lintern, a Lutheran pastor,
humorist and motivational speaker.

Refrain: **Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus is alive.**

While soldiers watched the gravesite that quiet Sunday dawn there came a big commotion and then the storm was gone. (refrain)

The women found no body their spices to anoint; instead they found an angel, God's message to appoint. (refrain)

Go from where He isn't to where He said He'd be. An Easter-time reunion: the hills of Galilee. (refrain)

Opening Prayer*

Karen Gerdes

Holy God, as you have taken what we call an absurdity and turned it into possibility.... as you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias where once there was a gray dawn, as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit into an undreamed-of tomorrow, we praise you for this day! Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. Amen.

We Listen for God's Word

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

Anne Fisher

Sending Song No. 623 “I've Got Peace like a River” (on screens)

**¹ I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.**

**I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.**

**I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.**

**³ I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.**

**² I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.**

**I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean;
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.**

Anthem	“I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy”	
Scripture	Psalm 100 (<i>The Message</i>) Philippians 4:4–7	Mary Koon
Message	“Holy Laughter”	Sue Greimel & Mary Koon
Prayer of Thanksgiving		Anne Fisher

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

We Respond in God’s Name

Offering of Ourselves & Our Gifts	Anne Fisher
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Offering Music	“This Joy”
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Hymn of Dedication No.591	“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!” (<i>on screens</i>)
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Refrain:

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**¹ O God, to whom shall we go?
You alone have the words of life.
Let your words be our prayer
and the song we sing:
hallelujah, hallelujah! (*refrain*)**

Prayer of Dedication	Karen Gerdes
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Thank you, generous God, for the blessings of laughter and love. Receive our gifts and our lives, and use them to further the work of justice and hope in the world. We pray in the name of the risen Christ, AMEN.

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song No. 450** "Give to Us Laughter" (*on screens*)
(sung to the tune of "Be Thou My Vision")

Give to us laughter,
O Source of our life.
Laughter can banish
so much of our strife!
Laughter and love
give us wholeness and health.
Laughter and love
are the coin of true wealth.

Give to us laughter
as sign of deep joy;
let us in laughing
find Christian employ,

joining with stars
and with bright northern lights,
laughing and praising
and sharing delights.

Even in sorrow
and hours of grief,
laughter with tears
brings us healing relief!
God, give us laughter,
and God, give us peace,
joy of your promise
among us increase.

Benediction

Mary Koon

Sending Song No. 539 "We Will Go Out with Joy" (*on screens*)

¹ We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

Refrain:
Alleluia! We will go out with joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

C.S. Theme & Variations

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Additional participants in worship today include:

Vocalists **Karen Gerdes, CeCe Klueh & Emma Wasko;**

Percussionist: **Caitlin Lucic;**

Organist: **Nancy Hauser** | Pianist: **Judy Cooper;**

Sound, Light, Video: **Mac Davis, Pierce Flanagan & Randy Dop**

*Call to Worship and Opening Prayer from *Still Laughing God: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday of Easter*, posted on the United Church of Christ's website:

https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter_2_april_19/

**Hymn text copyright © 1974 Walter Farquharson. Posted on [Rev. Dr. Stacy Smith blog](#). To see the entire text (with music by Ron Klusmeier), visit the [musiklus website](#).