

Welcome to Samuel UCC
No matter where you are on life's journey,
YOU
are welcome here!

- We are **REQUIRING** everyone wear a facemask. (*Children 3 years and younger would be exempt from the mask requirement.*)
- You may move about and greet one another during “The Passing of the Peace.” As always, be respectful of other’s comfort levels regarding touching.
- The offering plate will be at each entrance to the sanctuary.
- Congregational singing of hymns is permitted for those who have been fully vaccinated.
- Children are invited to stay in service for Children’s Time (called “*A Story for All Ages*”) and then join Sunday School.
- Children aged 3 and under are welcome to join our staffed and vaccinated Nursery in the fellowship hall.

Sunday April 24, 2022

10am Samuel United Church of Christ

The First Sunday After Easter

Hearing assistance devices are available.

**indicates all who are comfortably able, please rise in body or spirit*

Welcome & Gathering Music

Announcements

Mission Moment – *Special Paper Goods Collection for Area Food Pantries*

(Kaelyn Krysovaty)

Ringling of the Bells

Call to Worship

(from Enfleshed)

One: Peace be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: The Holy Spirit lives within you.

All: She also lives within you.

One: Let us gather in the presence of the Redeemer,

All: The Beloved who sets forth the path of Life.

***Opening Hymn**

“Christ Rose Up From the Dead”

#239 NCH (black)

Christ Rose Up from the Dead

Matt. 28:2-6; John 19:16-18; 19:38-20:18

African-American traditional; alt.

Refrain

Christ rose, Christ rose, Christ rose up from the dead, Christ rose,
a - rose a - rose, a - rose,

Christ rose, Christ rose from the dead, Christ rose Christ rose,
a - rose a - rose, a - rose,

Christ rose up from the dead, and God's grace will bear my spir - it home. *Last time, end*

1 They cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross, they
2 And Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, and
3 An an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, an
4 Oh, Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, oh,

cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross, They
 Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, And
 an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, An
 Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, Oh,

cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross,
 Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb,
 an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone,
 Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb,

to Refrain

(1-4) and God's grace will bear my spir - it home.

***A Prayer of Transformation**

(from Enfleshed)

One: Let us pray together...

All: God of our Weary Years, there is hell on Earth - ecosystems collapsing, the nightmare of war, lawmakers abusing people of oppressed genders. And somehow, paradoxically, the Kin-dom of Heaven is still being cocreated - through deep roots of solidarity, communities meeting each other's needs, and joyful expressions of multifaceted identities. Embolden us to face the rising sun of hope every morning and bless the blooming of your Kin-dom.

***Response**

“Christ Rose Up From the Dead” (Refrain)

#239 NCH (black)

**Christ rose, Christ rose, Christ rose up from the dead,
Christ rose, Christ rose, Christ rose from the dead,
Christ rose, Christ rose, Christ rose up from the dead,
and God's grace will bear my spirit home.**

The Passing of the Peace

If you are worshipping with us on Zoom, we invite you to wave your hands to those around you. You may also want to unmute yourself and greet one another with the “Peace of Christ be with you.” For those who are in person, we invite you to greet one another, but be attentive to those who may not want to shake hands. If someone waves that is a cue for a wave back.

*The Response

“Halleluja”

#236 NCH (*black*)

**Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja. Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja.
Halle, Halle Halle-lu-ja. Halle-lu-ja, Halle-lu-ja.**

Stories for the Ages - *John 20:19-31 NRSV*

19 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.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”

28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Response *“Easter People” (St. 1) # 304 UMH (purple)*

**Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven’s choices;
heavenly music let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people let us sing.**

A Story for All Age – *Children’s Time with Melissa*

Hymn: *“The Day of Resurrection”* #245 NCH ((black))

The Day of Resurrection

245

John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The Message – *Pastor Jeff Groene*

Special Music – *Nic Valdez*

A Time of Recognition –

Saying Good-bye and Celebrating the Ministry of Nic Valdez

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

“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, for ever. Amen.”

***Closing Hymn:** *“O How Glorious Full of Wonder”*

#558 NCH (black)

The Challenge and Blessing

*(from *Enfleshed*)*

May the creativity of the Spirit surprise you;

May the beloved community support you;

*May the Lure of the Sacred beckon you towards
the beautiful, the good, and the life-giving.*

Go forth, creating everyday salvation,

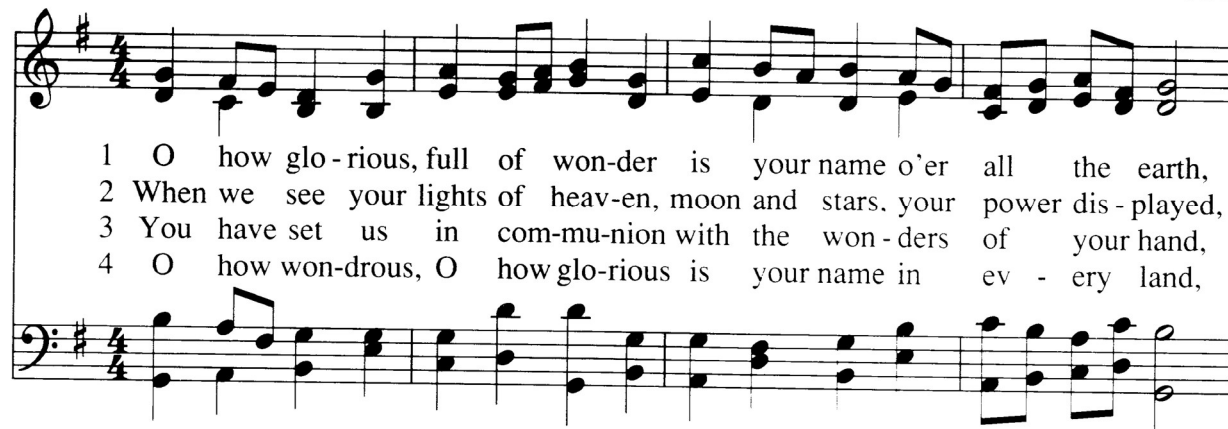
for you are an expression of the Living God.

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

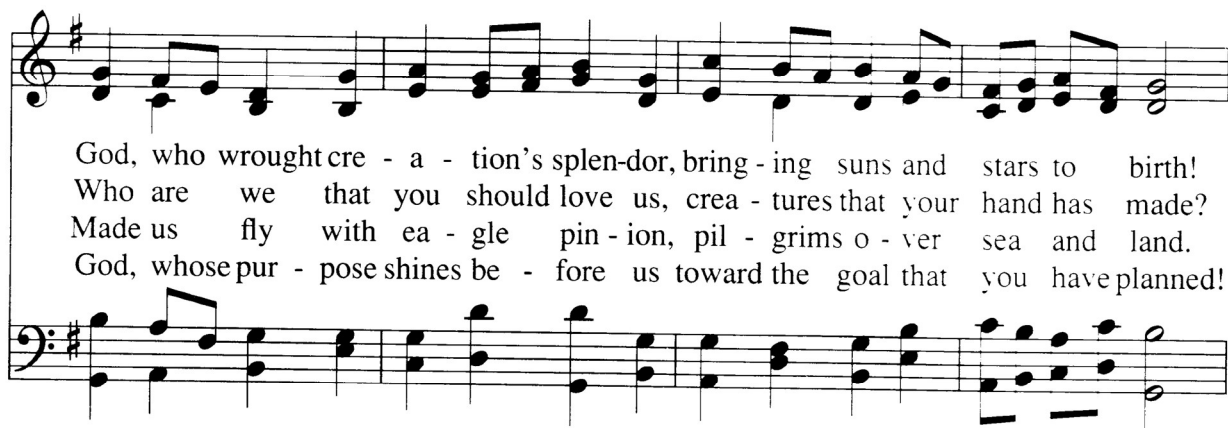
558

Curtis Beach, 1958, rev. 1980; alt.

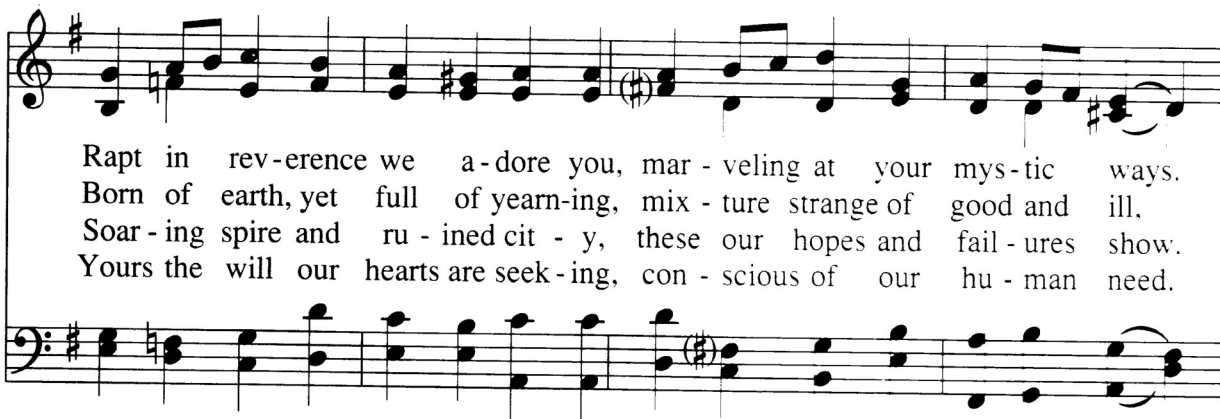
Ps. 8



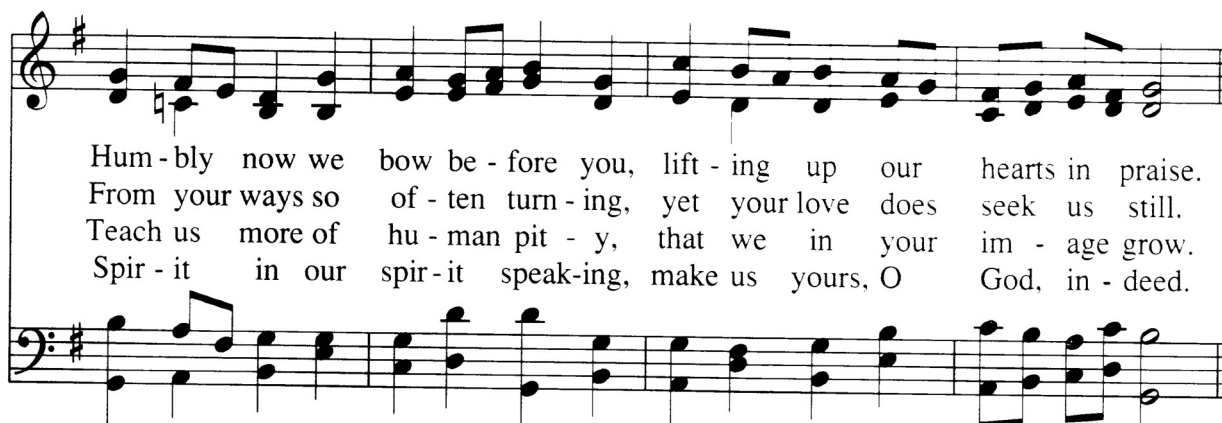
1 O how glo - rious, full of won - der is your name o'er all the earth,
2 When we see your lights of heav - en, moon and stars, your power dis - played,
3 You have set us in com - mu - nion with the won - ders of your hand,
4 O how won - drous, O how glo - rious is your name in ev - ery land,



God, who wrought cre - a - tion's splen - dor, bring - ing suns and stars to birth!
Who are we that you should love us, crea - tures that your hand has made?
Made us fly with ea - gle pin - ion, pil - grims o - ver sea and land.
God, whose pur - pose shines be - fore us toward the goal that you have planned!



Rapt in rev - erence we a - dore you, mar - veling at your mys - tic ways.
Born of earth, yet full of yearn - ing, mix - ture strange of good and ill.
Soar - ing spire and ru - ined cit - y, these our hopes and fail - ures show.
Yours the will our hearts are seek - ing, con - scious of our hu - man need.



Hum - bly now we bow be - fore you, lift - ing up our hearts in praise.
From your ways so of - ten turn - ing, yet your love does seek us still.
Teach us more of hu - man pit - y, that we in your im - age grow.
Spir - it in our spir - it speak - ing, make us yours, O God, in - deed.

***The Postlude**

Liturgist: Jo Ann Mulcahy

Altar Flowers are placed by Maureen Ronken in honor of Don's successful open heart surgery.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU and BEST WISHES TO NIC!

We extend our deepest thanks and best wishes to the amazingly gifted Nicolas Valdez. Nic has shared his gifts and talents with us since 2017. We have been blessed to have him with us expanding the music we experience in worship. We wish Nic the best in as he enters a new chapter. Join us at Fellowship Time today to say a personal goodbye.

Fellowship Time - TODAY

Today, we will gather for fellowship time after worship. Our hope is that we will be able to be outside, but we will have plans for indoor, if the weather doesn't cooperate.

Food Collection NEXT SUNDAY

Remember to bring in lots of nonperishable food for our monthly food collection benefiting the Centennial Christian Church Food Pantry.

Children and Youth Minister Search Committee – Job Posted

We have worked on the job description and will be posting it. If you know of anyone interested, please contact someone from the Search Committee: Susan Craig, Leslie French, Pastor Jeff, Christine Krysowaty, Danielle Lindsey, and Alex Miller.

Director of Music Search Committee Forming

With the news of Nic Valdez's leaving his position at Samuel Church to allow more time to pursue his other professional endeavors, we are assembling a search committee who will work at writing a job description, identifying and interviewing candidates, and making a recommendation to the Consistory. If you are interested in serving on this Search Committee, please let Pastor Jeff or Tim Poor know.

Children and Youth trip to Mauhaus Cafe! Friday, April 29 at 6pm

Friday, April 29th from 6-8pm. Some of you asked for it, and we delivered! We have the Mauhaus Cafe reserved for our group! Come pet cats, drink hot chocolate, and hang out with us! All ages welcome. \$10 per person. 12 and under are \$5. I do need a head count, so please RSVP by April 26th. Per Mauhaus Cafe rules, 1 adult must be present for every 2 children that are 12 and under, so drop offs are only allowed for ages 13 and up. More information about the Mauhaus Cafe here: <https://mauhauscafe.com/>

Saturday, May 14 - Confirmation Class 10am-12pm

Confirmation Class with Possible Confirmation Rehearsal and lunch after class. We will tidy up unanswered questions, work on a group statement of faith, and talk about where we go from here.

Looking Ahead

Here are some important upcoming dates:

May 8: Mother's Day

May 14: Confirmation Class

May 20: Youth Lock In

May 22: Celebration of Melissa Harlow's Ministry

May 28: Confirmation Rehearsal

May 29: Confirmation and Melissa's Last Day

May 30: Memorial Day



The Mission Statement of Samuel Church

Samuel Church, gathered by Grace,
Nourished by the Word,
and Renewed by the Holy Spirit,
is a welcoming, caring community of faith.

In response to the gift of grace, and in affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ, we welcome all persons into our fellowship. We seek to be a congregation that includes persons of any race, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, marital status, faith understanding, mental and physical ability, and socio-economic background. We welcome all to share fully in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship, rites and sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of the community called Samuel Church.