



Trinitarian Congregational Church  
*United Church of Christ*  
Concord, Massachusetts  
April 15, 2018

*Celebrating Community*

"What we call doubt is often simply dullness of mind and spirit,  
not the absence of faith at all, but faith latent with the lives we are not quite living,  
God dormant in the world to which we are not quite giving our best selves."

-Christian Wiman, *My Bright Abyss*

**SILENT PRAYER**

O God, I can't pretend to be anyone I am not. I bring my faith and my doubt to worship.  
Accept me and guide me, as I learn more about you and who you are calling me to be.  
Amen.

**PRELUDE**

Noriko Yasuda, piano

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Dearly Beloved, we are gathered here...

**All: Because God so loves the world;**

One: To have and to hold,  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health.

**All: Because God so loves the world;**

One: Winter turns into spring,  
depression into delight,  
a cross into a tree of life.

**All: For God so loves the world;**

One: Enough to turn violence into love,  
sorrow into joy, death into life.

**All: Come, let us worship a God who loves this world!**

**\*HYMN #430**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!  
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

*Darwall's 148th*

**\*INVOCATION**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY**

**ANTHEM**

*Now the Green Blade Riseth*

French carol

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, love whom men had slain,  
Thinking that never he would wake again.  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green,

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain.  
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

(J.M.C. Crum 1872-1958)

**READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES** Luke 24:36-48 (p. 91 in the pew Bible)

**SERMON**

*The Questioning Believer*

Robert Brown

**\*HYMN #118**

The Day of Resurrection!  
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

*Lancashire*

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, and The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

**Call to Stewardship**

**Offertory**

*Hallelujah, Amen!* from Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*  
The Senior Choir, directed by Matt DiBattista  
Hallelujah Amen! Rejoice, O Judah, in songs divine.  
With Cherubim and Seraphim harmonious join.

**\*Hymn of Praise**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Old Hundredth*

**\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Generous and gracious God,  
you have given us everything.  
We return but a portion  
of all that you have given us.  
Bless these gifts  
that they might further transform your world  
with resurrection power here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

**\*HYMN #104**

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!  
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

*Hymn to Joy*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Noriko Yasuda, pianist

\*The congregation is invited to stand.

**† Go Forth and Serve †**

**Leading Worship:** Rev. Robert Brown, Acting Senior Minister; Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Noriko Yasuda, Guest Pianist; Matt DiBattista, Guest Choir Director; Russell Sanna, Liturgist.