



Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken;  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery.  
We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;  
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water;  
here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place, the new light is shining;  
now is the kingdom and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever;  
gather us in and make us your own.  
Gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## Call to Confession

Leader: As we seek to rise with Christ in this Easter season, let us confess some of the challenges we face being people of the resurrection.  
Let us pray:

## Prayer of Confession (**unison**)

**O Lord, we are sorry for the times we've been asleep while You've been trying to rouse us to action. We realize that we can easily be unconscious to Your presence in our lives. So many things compete for our attention, and we grow tired, forgetting that Your attention is life-giving. Forgive us, and wake us to your Holy Spirit in this hour of worship. Amen.**

## Moment of Silent Reflection

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Psalm 121 reminds us that the God who watches over us never slumbers nor sleeps. Rest assured that the Lord is awake, attentive to your needs, and ready at all times to step in with the gift of saving grace.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson          Psalm 121:1-8  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

## Children's Message

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn #527            Eat This Bread

Eat this bread; drink this cup;  
come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread; drink this cup;  
trust in me and you will not thirst.

Second Scripture Lesson    Acts 20:7-12

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

Sermon        “God Acts: A Young Man Awakened”

Offering

Offertory                Here I am Lord                Arr. John Carter

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In every time and every age, O God, it is good and faithful  
that we give you thanks,...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, Love which never ends.  
All creation sings Easter cantatas.  
Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

**Blessed is the One who has destroyed death.  
Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things...

... Remembering our Lord’s self-giving love, we  
proclaim the mystery of faith:

**The One thought dead, lives; the One thought to be  
lost, finds us; the One we think we will never see will  
call us by name to bring us home.**

... Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life...

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution and Sharing of the Elements

**Prayer after Communion (unison)**

**Here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you  
feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we  
might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you  
send us back to our work— only it is no longer the  
same work because we know you are with us and in  
us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses  
in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit,  
may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.**

\*Hymn #610    O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of God’s grace!

The name of Jesus charms our fears,  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful waken to rejoice;  
the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.

To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heaven.

\*Benediction

Leader: Go forth in joy to love and serve God in all that  
you do.

**People: We are sent in the name of the risen Christ.**

Let us bless our Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

May the God of peace, who raised to life the great shep-  
herd of the sheep,  
make us ready to do his will in every good thing,  
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

Postlude

Allegro in C minor

J.S. Bach

### Worship Leaders

Liturgist:	Don Barnes
Ushers:	Team C
Zoom Host:	Mike Dingelstedt
Piano and Organ:	Marcello Velame
Video Editing:	Rich Vodhanel
Coffee Hour:	Deacons

### Church Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening
Director of Music Ministries:	Marcello Velame
Sexton:	Douglas Silk

### Announcements and Upcoming Events

**Are you— Color Blind? Color Brave? Neither? Not Sure? Let's Talk!** You are invited to join in a series of small group conversations about racism and anti-racism, beginning **May 11th**, 6-7:30pm.

Information and registration info mailed out last week; also on our website.

#### **Strawberry Festival Donations—May 1st-31st**

The Annual Strawberry festival will be held Saturday, June 4th, from 9:30-2:00. In addition to hoping that you attend and invite friends, we could use your support by sorting, cleaning, and/or pricing items

before the festival, and by donating the following types of items:

**Useful and Decorative Home Goods, Beach/Picnic/Fashion Accessories, Books for the Book Nook**

Please contact Kay Healy-Wedsworth (kayhw@comcast.net), May Truxal (maytruxal@verizon.net), or Nancy Vodhanel (nvodhanel@gmail.com, 732-530-7641) if you have questions about donations or if you can help.

**Please put donations in the Omega Room in the Church House.**

**Food Drive:** The Deacons invite you to donate shelf stable food for the Eatontown CO-OP. You may leave donations in the bin or the foyer of the Church House.

#### **May Zoom Study: Worship Symbols**

What are liturgical colors about? Why do we have certain symbols and architecture in our worship space? Why do we have the elements of worship that we do in our service?

Join us on Tuesday at 9am on Zoom, beginning again **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** to find out.

Here's the zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87686705631>