



Cover Art:

"Prepared" by Hannah Garrity Inspired by Luke 24:1-12 Paper lace

"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body." (Luke 24:1-3, NRSV)

I recently read Art and Faith by Makoto Fujimura. Fujimura speaks of the beauty in particular moments in scripture: when the women enter the tomb, and when Mary, sister of Martha, pours oil over Jesus before his journey to the cross. Fujimura draws attention to these texts to anchor a discussion of the importance of beauty in faithful practice. God placed beautiful things on earth for us to give back to God in glory. We must consider when, where, why, and how we engage beauty. We must engage with beauty in our faithful practice.

In this paper lace art piece, the inside of a bowl is patterned with images telling the initial moments of the Easter story. This design depicts burial spices in patterns. Amidst the spice patterns, a sunrise emerges. At the top is an abstract image of the empty tomb.

This moment, the moment when the women arrive at the tomb, represents an act of holy, extravagant, expansive beauty. Imagine being there, arriving at daybreak, holding the spice bowl in your hands. The burial spices, nard and myrrh, were aromatic. The aromas of blood, oils, death, and spices fill the air. Imagine how it would have smelled. It was the work of the women to honor the body of the deceased; to honor the life he had lived, and they had loved.

How might we honor God with our practices of beauty? What materials do we need to gather and incorporate? How can we keep God centered in our creative endeavors?

—Hannah Garrity



With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones, where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love by word and deed to all people.

The Worship of God

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022

All Are invited to sing during worship! Masks are recommended but not required. For anyone who would like to wear a mask but does not have one, they are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Easter Prelude

"Crown Him with Many Crowns (DIADEMATA)" GBC Handbell Choir

> Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2019

Christian McIvor "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

"We Will Rise Again"

arr. Bill Holcombe & Bill Holcombe, Jr.

by George J. Elvey,

arr. Bill Ingram

Christian McIvor, Steve Rose, James Tatum "Thine Is the Glory"

by George Frideric Handel, arr. Bill Ingram

GBC Handbell Choir

by Gorge J. Elvey, arr. Mary Mcdonald

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" Tim Hendrix, Pam Weis

April Alston

and Lloyd Larson

Easter Proclamation

One: Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Welcome

All:

† Processionl Hymn 367

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

EASTER HYMN: Words by Charles Wesley,

Music from Lyra Davidica, 1708;

Last stanza setting and Choral ending by Don Hart

Children's Sermon April Alston

Call to Confession Anna Beth Cross

[†] Please rise in body or spirit.

Prayer of Confession

God of new life, we are a mixed bag.

We want to be full to the brim with hope and joy,

but often we overflow with comparison and doubt.

We want to embody the resurrection,

but often we'd rather stay the same than to begin again.

We want to have the courage to be like the women on that Easter morning—

boldly bearing witness to the resurrection,

but often we are weary of courage and uncertain of our own voices.

Forgive us for all the ways we remain unchanged and unmoved.

Break into our hearts.

Overflow here.

With hope we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

† Offertory Hymn 45

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

DIADEMATA;

Words by Matthew Bridges, stanzas 1, 2, 4; Godfrey Thring, stanza 3, Music by George J. Elvey; arr. and choral ending by William David Young

† Doxology

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS ERFREUEN;

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; O praise God! Alleluia! Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

O praise God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Lisha Stewart

† Scripture Reading

Luke 24:1-12

Sylvia Cash

Sermon

"An Expansive Life"

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Silent Reflection

[†] Please rise in body or spirit.

Musical Reflection

"O Love" GBC Adult Choir

Words by George Matheson, Music by Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That in thy ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be.

O Joy, O Joy, O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain That morn shall tearless be, That morn shall tearless be.

O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, I give thee back the life I owe, I give thee back the life I owe And in thy ocean depts its flow Shall richer, fuller be.

O Love, O Love, O Love, O Love, O Love, O Love That will not let me go. O Love, that will not let me go.

Communion

Chrissy Tatum Williamson and Steve Rose

Passing of the Peace

Steve Rose

Invitation

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† Hymn of Response 365

"Alleluia! Alleluia!"

HYMN TO JOY; Words by Christopher Wordsworth, altered, Music by Ludwig van Beethoven; adapted by Edward Hodges

Benediction

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

As you leave this place,

may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

May you laugh, and may it be contagious.

May you overflow with love for those around you.

May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

† Sung Benediction

Excerpt from "Hallelujah Chorus" GBC Adult Choir and Congregation

from Messiah, by George Frideric Handel"

King of kings (Forever and ever!)
And Lord of lords (Hallelujah! Hallelujah!),
And He shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings! And Lord of lords!
King of kings! And Lord of lords!
And He shall reign forever and ever,
Forever and ever (King of kings!),
Forever and ever (and Lord of lords!).
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Postlude

"La Rejouissance (The Rejoicing)" Christian McIvor, Tim Hendrix by George Frideric Handel

The altar flowers this morning are given by the Greystone staff As an expression of gratitude for this beloved congregation. We give God thanks for the resurrection hope seen in each of you.

[†] Please rise in body or spirit.





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