

**PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH
WAYNE, N.J.**

Plenty

Having shared our bread,
we know that we are
no longer hungry. It is enough

that you see me for myself.
That I see you for yourself.
That we bless what we see

and do not borrow, do not use
one another. This is how we know
we are no longer hungry...that

the world is full of terror, full of beauty
and yet we are not afraid to find solace here.
To be bread for each other. To love.

Gunilla Norris



PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
WORSHIP AT HOME AND IN THE SANCTUARY
May 2, 2021
10:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Preakness Reformed Church!

*"Listening is a form of spiritual hospitality by which you invite strangers to become friends,
to get to know their inner selves more fully, and even to dare to be silent with you."
Henri J.M. Nouwen*

☒ *Congregation standing, as able
Masks on looking down*

WE GATHER IN THE JOY OF EASTER

PRELUDE

INTROIT The Strife is O'er, The Battle Done VICTORY, Arr. Michael R. Keller

EASTER LITANY

The joy of the risen Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Jesus said, I am the vine, and God is the vine grower. Abide in me as I abide in you.

**Jesus also reminds us that He is the vine, and we are the branches;
connected with Christ, in Christ, we can bear much fruit.**

Jesus told his followers that God is glorified when we bear fruit
and keep on becoming Jesus' followers. John 15: 1-8

We gather with one another continuing to follow the Risen Christ.

May we be lifted beyond all distractions into the unbridled pleasure of worship.

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE 193 I Know that My Redeemer Lives DUKE STREET
(verses 1, 2 & 3)

☒ **PASSING THE JOY AND PEACE OF EASTER**

No one has ever seen God.

If we love one another, God lives in us and God's love becomes complete in us. 1 John 4:12

CHRIST IS RISEN? He lives in us and we live in Christ!

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA AMEN!

(Please offer a sign of joy and peace safely to one another in the sanctuary and at home.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF BLESSING

THE EASTER MESSAGE

THE READING OF THE WORD

Acts 8:26-40

THE MESSAGE "The Spirit Along the Scenic Route"

SOLO Come to us Beloved Stranger soloist: Jessica Amato

RESPONDING WITH THE HOPE OF EASTER

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

The Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, dear God,
for in the communion of your love
Christ comes close to us and we come close to Christ.
Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea, and sky, we sing to you.
With the angels of light who envelop us,
with all the saints before and beside us,
with brothers and sisters, east and west, we sing to you.
And with our loved ones, separate from us now,
who yet in this mystery are close to us,
we join in the song of your unending greatness:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is our brother Jesus,
who walks with us the road of our world's suffering,
and who is known to us in the breaking of bread.
Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us,
and upon this bread and wine.
May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life,
healing, renewing, and make us whole.

And as the bread and wine which we now eat and drink are changed into us, may we be changed again into you, bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh, loving and caring in the world. Amen.

The Communion

*(Please open your personal communion cup and receive the wafer and juice.
For those worshiping online please receive the communion elements you have prepared at this time.)*

PRAYERS AROUND THE TABLE

...concluding with 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,
forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"I Love to Tell the Story"
(verses 1 & 3)

A. Catherine Hankey &
William G. Fischer

EASTER BLESSING

POSTLUDE

(Please allow our ushers to usher you out of the sanctuary.)

*Assisting God's people in worship this morning are Reverend Mary L. Marcus, worship leader;
Kris Macagney, liturgist; Jerry Deplet, sound; The bell choir;
Jessica Amato, soloist; Kevin Lynch, accompanist
and Dan King, director of music ministries.*

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CCLI#111100448*

endnotes: The communion Liturgy this morning has been adapted from the writings of the Iona community and The Yellow House of Highland.

The bread on the table this morning was baked by Lois Bender

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

193

D G D E A D

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What joy this
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 3 He lives to sil - ence all my fears; he lives to
 3 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to

G D Em D A D A D

blest as - sur - ance gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
 plead for me a - bove; he lives my hun - gry

G Em A D G D Em D/A A7 D

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ing to im - part.
 soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.

- 5 He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend;
 he lives and loves me to the end;
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 6 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;
 he lives my mansion to prepare;
 he lives to bring me safely there.

7 He lives, all glory to his name!
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;
 what joy this blessed assurance gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

Words: Samuel Medley (1738-1799), alt., P.D.

Music (DUKE STREET 8.8.8.8): John Hatton (1710-1793), 1793, P.D.

I love to tell the story

HANKEY, 7 6 7 6 D. Ref.

A. Catherine Hankey

William G. Fischer

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove, Of
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry, More won - der - ful it seems Than
 3. I love to tell the sto - ry, 'Tis pleas - ant to re - peat What
 4. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best Seem

Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love, I love to
 all the gold - en fan - cies Of all our gold - en dreams. I love to
 seem, each time I tell it, More won - der - ful - ly sweet. I love to
 hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it like the rest. And when, in

tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know 'tis true; It sat - is - fies my
 tell the sto - ry, It did so much for me; And that is just the
 tell the sto - ry, For some have nev - er heard The mes - sage of sal -
 scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song, 'Twill be the old, old

REFRAIN

long - ings As noth - ing else can do.
 rea - son I tell it now to thee. I love to tell the sto - ry, 'Twill
 va - tion From God's own Ho - ly Word.
 sto - ry That I have loved so long.

be my theme in glo - ry To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.