

***May 8, 2022 The Fourth Sunday in Eastertide**

Bold Italics indicate the work of the People.

** indicates the congregation shall stand.*

QUIET TIME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Arnold Kenseth (adapted)

Your grace and gladness everywhere abound.

All thing and creatures praise You.

Praise! Cry the fields and the brookstreams.

Praise! sing the orchard robins.

And Praise! sigh the mourning doves.

Praise! says the south wind.

Praise! shout the hills.

*Let everything that has breath
praise our God.*

Amen!

Amen!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Arnold Kenseth

O God, from your whirlwind come and speak to our hearts. Come with your mercy, for we have need of it. Come with your laughter, and teach us joy. Lay your peace upon the world's rage; and unto all darkness, send your light. And send us forth in your strength to heal and love and overcome. Amen.

*HYMN PH #38 "Morning Has Broken"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Arnold Kenseth (adapted)

O Lord, we approach you for mercy; we come to be healed; we come for a vast forgiveness. For we stumble in our own darkness. We live with strange fears. We have a weariness that is heavy on us and in us. We are crippled seeking the things that don't satisfy us, and we are not at peace with you. Come now and overcome us with your love, for in you there is health and a clear path, even Jesus Christ the Lover of our Souls. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The Gloria Patri
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

A LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Psalm 23

THE GOSPEL FOR THE MORNING John 10:22-39

A SERMON

*HYMN PH #79 "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is"

PRAYERS FOR THE MORNING

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Prayers of Intercession

Pastoral Prayer

We wonder again, O God,
at your spring spectacle of new green growing.

Winter trees and vines sleep so deep
that they hint and threaten death to us.

March and April in New England are a gnawing fear
that life is made for death and not for life.

All that is dead or tends towards death in us
trembles in late winter winds.

But all that is past.

What seemed dead around us now bursts forth with life,
and all that is alive in us or tends towards life,

trembles and flutters in May winds,
and bursts into hope and songs of praise,
and the possibilities of love.

We were awakened in the night
by the strong sound of wind, and at first, we were afraid
until we thought, O yes,
that strong sound is the sound of leaves blowing,
and that wind speaks of life and life abundant.

Dear God, though thanksgiving springs to our hearts and lips almost unbidden, it
doesn't come unmixed,
for your springtime's seeming easy greening
shows up the sluggishness of our own new growing.

We don't know whether trees resist their new leaves
and seek to stay asleep,
but we do know something strong in us would rather sleep and die,
and it is this strong dying in us, most of all,
that we offer up to you for healing on this May day
in Jesus' name, in whose dying, dying died.

The Lord's Prayer
Response

THE OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology PH #514

*Prayer of Thanksgiving:

***In thanks and with gratitude for all that you provide, dear
God, and to the service of the world you love so much, we dedicate
these gifts and our lives to you in Jesus' name. Amen***

*HYMN PH #29 "Now Thank We All our God"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE