First Congregational United Church of Christ 615 N. First Street, DeKalb, Illinois 60115 815-758-0691 www.UCCDekalb.org April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Third Sunday of Easter

Our Mission:

To embody God's love for all by living an active faith in service to others. We Gather to Affirm God's Presence in Our Lives. All are welcome. Bring your whole self here, and we will celebrate all that you are with you and before God.

\* Indicates please stand

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**CHORAL INTROIT** 

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

**LEADER:** All we like sheep have gone astray.

- **PEOPLE:** Yes, we have all fallen short of the expectations set for us by our Creator.
- **LEADER:** And yet we come again to worship in the presence of a God whose love is endless, and whose grace is without limit.
- PEOPLE: Such love is hard to imagine and yet we know that without it our lives are without hope.
- ALL: In God we do find hope. In God's love we find mercy. In God's house we worship and give thanks to the God who made us.

**Opening #73 NCH "Enter, Rejoice, and Come in"** 

#### **INVOCATION:**

Spirit of the risen Christ, let your abundant grace become the source of our joy. Let us free ourselves from the useless and paralyzing consequences of guilt and shame. May we find in our worship today words of grace, love, compassion, forgiveness, and acceptance. May our songs and prayers reflect the deep gratitude we feel knowing that your death and resurrection have redeemed us from the grave.

CHILDREN'S TIME

NOISY OFFERING

Scripture: John 21.15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he had said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt to go wherever you wished. But when you grew old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not want to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

SERMON

OFFERTORY

**CHOIR ANTHEM** 

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENCE

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father (Mother, if preferred), who art in heaven Hallowed be thy name. They kingdom (or kindom) 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 kindom (or kingdom), the power, and the glory forever. Amen

## CLOSING HYMN #419 "Now Thank We All Our God"

#### **\*UNISON BENEDICTION**

May God the Creator, in whose image we are made; And May Christ the Redeemer, who was raised from the dead; And May their Holy Spirit, the lifeblood of the church: Rest and abide with us today and forevermore. Amen

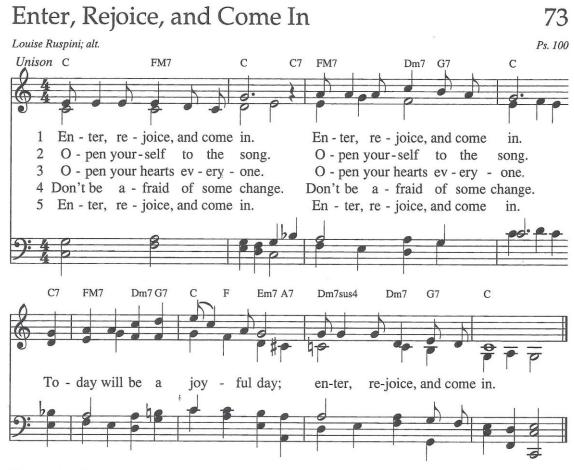
## CHORAL BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

#### SERVING THE CONGREGATION TODAY

Ministers: All of UsLiturgist: Linda TillisPastor: John DorhauerVideo: Colleen BredesonOrganist: Travis EriksonCo-Moderators: Amy Overton, Courtney Hanna-McNamara

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In, Louise Ruspini; ©All rights reserved. The New Century Hymnal Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License # 737648; 737648. Now Thank We All Our God, Martin Rinkart, 1647;trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt; ©All rights reserved. The New Century Hymnal Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License # 737648; 737648; 737648



This song, based on Psalm 100, became popular in the 1970s in the United States. It works equally well with organ, piano, or guitar accompaniment. Tune: ENTER, REJOICE 7.7.8.7. Louise Ruspini Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

# (Now Thank We All Our God)

Sir. 50:20-24; 39:35; Ps. 67 Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt. Mund und Händ 1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, en, with Now thank we all our God heart and hands and voic 1 es, may this boun-teous God through all our life be 2 0 near us, praise and thanks to God our Mak - er 3 All now be giv en, gro - sse Ding - e tut uns und al - len End en; der an whom this world re joic Who won - drous things has done, in es, With ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us, in high - est To Christ, and Spir - it, help heav too, our en, der Kind - es - bein - en uns von Mut - ter leib und an Who, from our par - ents' arms, has blessed us on our way us when plexed, And keep us still and guide in grace, per earth and heaven dore, The one nal God, whom e ter a 0 0. zäh - lig viel bis hier-her hat ge tan. zu gut un count-less gifts still is day. With of love, and ours to free us this world and the And from all ills in next. thus it shall be For is now, and ev - er more. was,