

**Easter Sunday**  
**Virtual Liturgy**  
**Communion Sunday**  
**April 12, 2020**

**Join us every Sunday at 9:30am for Virtual Worship:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/iaoucc/>

88.1 FM Radio Station (within 1 mile of the church campus)

<https://hymnary.org/hymnal/NCH1995>

**Prelude .....“Jesus Paid It All” played by Karyn Sarring**

All To Christ by John T. Grape arg. Jason W. Krug 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.

**Welcome and Announcements:**

- Welcome to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of virtual messaging not only to our Iao UCC Church members, but to all those who join us from the Mainland and beyond – family, friends of the church and our community at large. If you are joining us via Facebook, you have the option to begin a “Watch Party” so that more people can join us this Sunday morning.
- A reminder if you are in need of anything and cannot get out to the grocery store, please call our office at (808) 244-7353 and we will find a way to get what you need. Don’t forget to keep in touch with one another.
- Reminder that we will remain sheltered in place until April 30<sup>th</sup> at which time the Council will meet to see where we are with the suggestions coming from the County and State.

**Centering Words**

Even in the midst of our Good Friday grief, our time in quarantine against and unsee-able virus, a sparrow sings in the garden, heralding the morning, as sunlight kisses the dewy grass. (*Strike the Tibetan Bowl three times*)

**Let us Open our Worship with Our Call to Worship** (*John 20*) (*Front Altar display is covered with a black cloth. After every response, the cloth is removed to reveal one item at a time – first the front Easter lilies and the bottom of the empty cross, then working up to the rest of the cross with each response until the Christ candle is unveiled which will be lit by the last community response.*)

Rong: The night is far gone. There is dew on the grass.

**Many: We walk with Mary to the tomb.**

Pastor Tino: Lost in our grief, we feel abandoned...alone...unaware that angels minister to us.

Rong: We weep with Mary, for all hope seems lost.

**Many: The stone is rolled back. Only his grave clothes remain.**

Pastor Tino: Overcome by having to be quarantined on this day, overcome by our loss, we feel abandoned...alone...unaware that Angels minister to us.

Rong: A flicker of hope ignites in the soul...wavering in the wind...challenging the triumph of darkness.

**Many: Yet, surely there is no cheating death?**

Pastor Tino: Gently, lovingly, Angels question our tears...for God is stronger than death.

Rong: Out of the shadows of the tomb, the light of Christ shines forth in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death.

**Many: In the depths of our souls, the light of Christ brings us back to the land of the living.** (*the Large Easter Pascual Candle is revealed*).

Rong: As the light of Christ dawns, we find that we are not alone.

**All: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.** (*light the large Easter Pascual Candle*).

One: Please join us in singing our opening hymn, “*God’s Eye Is on The Sparrow*” found in the New Century Hymnal number 475.

**Opening Hymn.....** “*God’s Eye Is on The Sparrow*”

**New Century Hymnal #475**

Written by Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

<https://hymnary.org/hymnal/NCH1995>

**Opening Prayer** (*Psalm 118, John 20*) *Please join with me in our opening prayer:*

**God of mystery and might, your wondrous love always seems to catch us off guard. We come to the tomb looking for death but find life instead. As we behold the glory of our salvation, take us back to that moment of discovery—when grief and loss gave way to a glimmer of hope. Before we shout our alleluias, remind us of the moment when despair was transported into glimpses of new possibilities. In the holy awe of Easter morning, we take a moment of silent gratitude that Christ calls each of us by name. Amen,**

**\*We Confess Together** (*Acts 10*) *Let us confess our faults before our God.*

**Receive our lament, Lord of Life, for during your final days, we turned away from you, even after you shared table with us, offering us the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation; and in your hour of greatest need, we fell asleep while you prayed in the garden, even after you urged us to keep the faith to avoid the time of trial. But we are here now, dearest friend, remembering what it cost you to know the joy we feel today. May our lives reflect the depth of our gratitude to be known as your disciples. Amen,**

**\*God's Assurance to Us** (*Acts 10*)

When we acknowledge our failings before God, God wipes away our shame. Receive forgiveness and mercy, through the gift of God's grace in Christ.

All the readings are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

**First Reading:**  
**Colossians 3:1-4**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**Gospel Reading:**  
**Matthew 28:1-10**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” This is my message for you.’ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings!’ And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.’

**Easter Hymn .....***“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

**Sung by Pastor Tino. Played by Lloyd Nebres**

New Century Hymnal #472 written by Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

**The Message – “By Words & Actions – We See God”**

**– Rev. Floren “Tino” Cordova, Pastor**

**Prayer**

**Amen, Amene, Ashe, A-ho and Alleluia.**

**Hymn of Response ..... “Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”**

**New Century Hymnal #252**

Written by William B. Bradbury, 1859

<https://hymnary.org/hymnal/NCH1995>

**Prayers of/for the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Communion..... “Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary”**

**Sing! Prayer & Praise Hymnal #187**

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**Service of Holy Communion**

Pastor Tino: Jesus said, I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**All: In company with all who hunger for a spiritual meal, we connect to this virtual table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving meal.**

Pastor Tino: Sharing this meal with Christ and each other, virtually, we know we are accepted and reconciled. Communing with Christ we encounter a transforming friendship throughout the world. Let us enter into the joy of our Lord.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Dialogue, Preface, and Sanctus**

Pastor: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to our God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is not only right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places, to give you thanks and praise, holy God, heavenly Creator, almighty and

eternal Parent, through Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Lord. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
The Words of Institution**

### **Acclamation of Christ**

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of death  
**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pastor Tino: Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are accepted, you are found worthy and you are loved. Please take what you have brought with you for this meal in your own homes – crackers, bread, juice, coffee – and let us partake together of this virtual Holy meal.

**Pastor: Let us all receive the “bread of life.” (consume)  
Pastor: Let us all receive the “spiritual drink.” (consume)**

- 1. Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true;  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.**
- 2. God empow'r me to be a witness for you,  
acting boldly, in your name;  
Seeking justice, where there is hurting  
off'ring hope where there is pain.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)**

**Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your virtual table with holy food and drink. Now send us forth to be your people in the world. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil,**

and to proclaim in all we say and do your Good News in Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen,

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Closing:**

Pastor Tino: From darkness and despair, we find hope and joy.

**People of God: Christ is risen! We go forth in joy!**

Pastor Tino: From doubt and betrayal, we find trust and faith.

**People of God: Christ is risen! We go forth in faith!**

Pastor Tino: From suffering and death, we find healing and life.

**People of God: Christ is risen! We go forth to live!**

Pastor Tino: Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

**People of God: We rejoice with a loud acclamation – ALLELUIA! – as we sing “We are people of God, living and sharing the love of Christ and reflecting that love in words and actions.”**

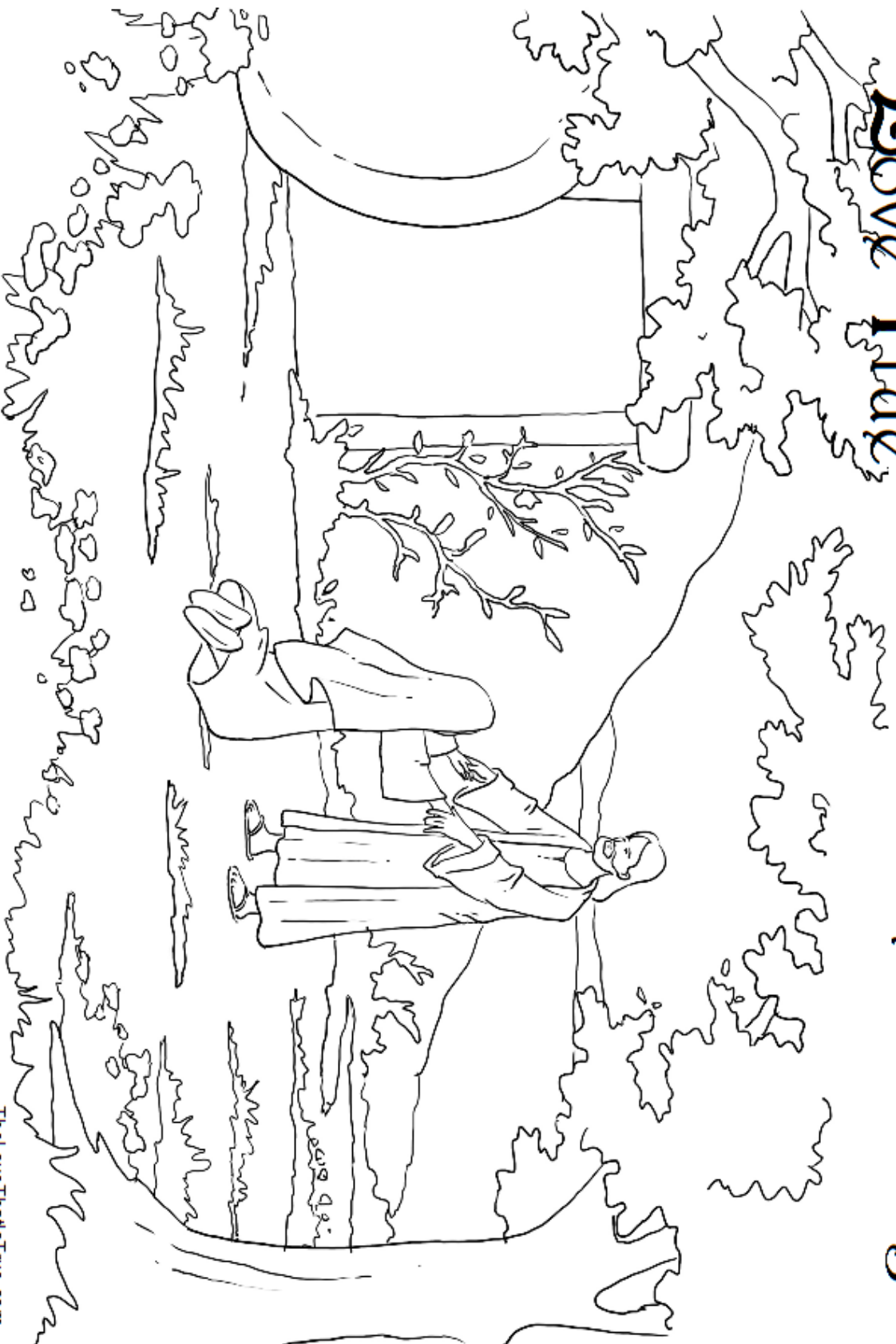
Birthday wishes to Dawson Defang, Joy Yamane, Jonathan Kaneshina

**Postlude ..... “Paise Him! Praise Him!” played by Karyn Sarring**

Joyful Song by Chester G. Allen arg. Terry Osman 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.

The Love That Is True

Easter Morning



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