

*Kingston Springs United Methodist Church*  
**Order of Worship**  
April 18, 2021

**Greeting** Rev. Kelli Hamilton

**Prelude** You Alone Are Holy Mary Combs

**Call to Worship** Mary Combs

Lord of Light and Mercy,  
**be with us this day as we again hear the stories  
of faith and sight.**  
Help us to believe in your abiding presence with us,  
**both in our darkness and in the light which you bring.**  
Give us courage and strength to witness to your resurrection.  
**For we offer this in Jesus' name, AMEN.**

**Hymn** Christ Has Risen – FWS 2115 Mary Combs

Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died,  
As He said and as He promised, as we doubted and denied.  
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;  
Let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people whom He died to love and save;  
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to His grave.  
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change  
All whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what He has been –  
Evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

**Prayers of the People**

**Children's Sermon** Rev. Kelli Hamilton

**Scripture Reading** Acts 3:12-21 Mary Combs

**Sermon** Bearing Witness: Repentance  
Rev. Kelli Hamilton

**Offering**

**Anthem** Now the Green Blade Riseth – UMH 311  
Mary Combs

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

## Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we confess that we lose faith. We become comfortable with the things wrong in this world. We become content with systemic sin when it benefits us. We accept that there are things we cannot change without striving for justice. Forgive us. Change us. Help us to see the world as you see it and may that insight lead us to live in the way of resurrection now: to use our power and privilege to serve, to not repay violence with violence, to work for justice in loving-kindness, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Remind us that your way of life is not simply a ticket to heaven but a transformation of our very selves. Forgive us of our sins, and love us into your way. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

The tomb is empty. The stone is rolled away.  
There is no darkness now, only light.

**God continues to renew us and restore us.**

**We are forgiven, loved and restored, receiving the gift and promise of new life and resurrection now.**

May God's Spirit continue to compel us to be witnesses to the resurrected Christ. **Amen.**

## Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good thing always and everywhere...

...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy Communion, *cont'd.*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of death:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

## 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 trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,

And the glory forever.

Amen

## Commission and Blessing

**Postlude**

Loving Spirit

Mary Combs, recorder