

**First Church in Boston
ORDER OF SERVICE
Easter Sunday**

**First Church Boston
66 Marlborough Street
Boston, MA
Sunday, April 4, 2021
Recorded April 1, 2021**

*Broadcast live, 11:00 am to noon, on WERS, 88.9FM, Vivian Borek, announcer
Streamed live on Facebook @firstchurchboston, Craig Hildreth, audio and video engineer
Masha Stepanova, video editor*

*Dr. Robert August, Director of Music; Erin Anderson, soprano, and the Triton Brass Ensemble,
guest musicians*

Prelude	Sonata from <i>Die Bänkelsängerlieder</i> <i>Performed by Triton Brass Ensemble</i>	anon., arr. Robert King
Opening Words		Rev. Stephen Kendrick
Hymn # 61	Lo, the Earth Awakes Again	EASTER HYMN
Chalice Lighting and Tolling of the Bell		Daniel Lawlor
Love is the spirit of this church, and Service its law. This is our great covenant, to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.		
Time For All Ages		Daniel Lawlor
Go Now in Peace		
Responsive Reading # 639	"Love One Another," I John 4	John Benson
Musical Meditation	"Alleluia" from <i>Exsultate Jubilate</i> , K. 165 <i>Erin Anderson, soprano</i>	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
Unison Reading # 624	"Hope Again," by Clarke Dewey Wells	Beth Curran
Announcements		Daniel Lawlor
Hymn # 266	Now the Green Blade Riseth	NOEL NOUVELET
Prayer and Meditation		Daniel Lawlor
Hymn # 270	O Day of Light and Gladness	LANCASHIRE

Sermon "Holy Passion" Rev. Kendrick

Offertory Procession from *Lohengrin* Richard Wagner (1813-1833) arr. Jack Gale
Performed by Triton Brass

Text Messaging Donation

You can use text messaging on your smartphone to send a contribution to the First Church offertory. Text a number representing your dollar amount (5, 10, 20, etc.) to (617) 917-5610. You will receive confirmation by email. Thank you!

Charge Daniel Lawlor

Hymn # 269 Lo, the Day of Days is Here
LLANFAIR

Benediction Rev. Kendrick

Postlude *Christ lag in Todesbanden* (Christ Lay in Death's Bonds)
Johann Heinrich Buttstett (1666-1727)

Please note, this order of service may vary from the actual broadcast service.

Hymn Texts, Responsive Reading, Lyrics, Translations (4/4/21)

Hymn # 61 Lo, the Earth Awakes Again EASTER HYMN

Lo, the earth awakes again — Alleluia!
From the winter's bond and pain.
Alleluia! Bring we leaf and flower and spray — Alleluia!
to adorn this happy day. Alleluia!

Once again the word comes true,
Alleluia! All the earth shall be made new. Alleluia!
Now the dark, cold days are o'er, Alleluia!
Spring and gladness are before. Alleluia!

Change, then, mourning into praise, Alleluia!
And, for dirges, anthems raise. Alleluia!
How our spirits soar and sing, Alleluia!
How our hearts leap with the spring! Alleluia!

Responsive Reading # 639 "Love One Another," I John 4

Let us love one another, because love is from God.
Whoever does not love God does not know God, for God is love.

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us.

God is love, and those who abide in love, abide in God, and God abides in them.

There is no fear in love, for perfect love casts out fear.

Those who say "I love God" and hate their brothers and sisters are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us.

Unison Reading # 624 "Hope Again," by Clarke Dewey Wells

God of Easter and infrequent Spring:

Announce the large covenant to deceitful lands,
Drive the sweet liquor through our parched veins,
Lure us to fresh schemes of life.
Rouse us from tiredness, self-pity,
Whet us for use,
Fire us with good passion.
Restore in us the love of living,
Bind us to fear and hope again.

Hymn # 266 Now the Green Blade Riseth

NOEL NOUVELET

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

(Chorus)

Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that never he would wake again,
laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen:

(Chorus)

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Love's touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

(Chorus)

Hymn # 270 O Day of Light and Gladness

LANCASHIRE

O day of light and gladness, of prophecy and song,
what thoughts within us waken, what hallowed mem'ries throng!
The soul's horizon widens, past, present, future blend;

and rises on our vision the life that has no end.

Earth feels the season's joyance; from mountain range to sea
the tides of life are flowing, fresh, manifold, and free.
In valley and on upland, by forest pathways dim,
all nature lifts in chorus the resurrection hymn.

O Dawn of life eternal, to thee our hearts up-raise
the Easter song of gladness, the Passover of praise.
Thine are the many mansions, the dead die not to thee,
who fillest from thy fullness time and eternity.

Hymn # 269

Lo, the Day of Days is Here

LLANFAIR

Lo, the day of days is here, Alleluia!
Festival of hope and cheer! Alleluia!
At the south wind's genial breath — Alleluia!
Nature wakes from seeming death, Alleluia!

Fields are smiling in the sun, Alleluia!
Loosened streamlets seaward run, Alleluia!
Tender blade and leaf appear; Alleluia!
'Tis the spring-tide of the year, Alleluia!

Lo, the Eastertide is here, Alleluia!
Music thrills the atmosphere. Alleluia!
Join, you people all, and sing — Alleluia!
Love and praise and thanksgiving, Alleluia!