



**Easter Sunday**

*April 4, 2021*

Zoom Worship

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRELUDE

*Now the Greed Blade Riseth*  
Quattro

arr. Larry Sue

Janis Jang, Karen Kawaguchi, Lori Smith, Nancy Snyder

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Eric Sherlock

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Dee Brook

Liturgy by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

One: They went to the cross,

**All: And watched you breathe your last.**

One: So they ran to the upper room,

**All: And locked the door in fear.**

One: Then, on this day so many years ago,  
some women went to the tomb,

**All: But you were not there.**

One: You were not there.

**All: You were already set loose in the world—spreading the holy type of Love.**

One: So find us here.

**All: Spread love here.**

One: Family of God, Christ is risen!

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

## PASSING THE PEACE

Dee Brook

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with waves and smiles  
and pass the peace of Christ using the chat feature.

## OPENING HYMN

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

#240

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Eric

Easter is a story of transformation—

Death to life; despair to hope; betrayal to forgiveness.

We need that type of transformation—every day and all the time.

So join me in the prayer of confession, for in our truth-telling with the divine,  
we are transformed.

Let us pray—

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Eric

**God of new life,**

**We need Easter like the desert needs rain.**

**For you give us unending love, and we turn it into a commodity.**

**You give us mystery, and we force it into certainty.**

**You give us community, and we set rules about who is in and who is out.**

**You give us grace, but we hold grudges against our neighbors.**

**You give us light and we ration it out to those we believe deserve it.**

**God of grace,**

**Forgive us for our shortcomings.**

**Dwell among us like rain in the desert—holy and unexpected—until new life grows here.**

**Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Todd

Family of Faith—

In the act of the cross, Jesus Christ experienced almost every type of hardship humans can  
inflict on one another—isolation, abandonment, physical and emotional abuse, shame,  
betrayal. You name it, he faced it.

And still—

and still—

He came back for us.

Friends—

No matter what you have done or left undone, you are known and loved by a God of unimaginable grace. Like rain in the desert, your sin is washed clean. So on this Easter day, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: You are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH CHILDREN		Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley
SCRIPTURE LESSON	<a href="#"><u>Mark 16:1-8</u></a>	Penny Atkin
SERMON	<i>Jesus is Alive</i>	Pastor Eric
ANTHEM	<i>Great Day</i> DCC Chancel Choir	African-American Spiritual arr. Warren Martin
<i>Refrain:</i> <i>Great day! Great day, the righteous marching;</i> <i>Great day! God's going to build up Zion's walls.</i>  <i>Chariot rode on the mountain top;</i> <i>My God spoke and the chariot stop.</i>  <i>We want no cowards in our band;</i> <i>We call for valiant hearted men.</i>  <i>This is the day of jubilee;</i> <i>The Lord has set His people free.</i>		
TIME OF PRAYER		Pastor Todd
Sharing our Joys and Concerns (Email your requests to Pastor Eric or type them in the chat window.) <b>All: Hear our prayer</b>  Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer (using these words or the words most familiar to you) <b>Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.</b> <b>Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.</b> <b>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.</b> <b>For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen</b>		
TIME OF GIVING		Nancy Dowell
Invitation to Giving <i>During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to</i> <a href="#"><u>give online via our web site and clicking "Donate" in the upper right of the screen.</u></a>		
Doxology	<b>Praise God from whom all blessings flow;</b> <b>Praise God, all creatures here below;</b> <b>Praise God above, ye heavenly host;</b> <b>Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen</b>	
Offertory Prayer		
CLOSING HYMN	<i>The Day of Resurrection</i>	#245
BENEDICTION		Pastor Eric
POSTLUDE	<i>Christ the Lord is Risen Today</i> DCC Jazz Trio John Kendall Bailey, piano; David Fetherstonhaugh, guitar; Dan Northway, drums	arr. Craig Curry

# Upcoming Gatherings

- **Worship at DCC, Sundays** at 9:30 a.m. (Zoom)  
<https://zoom.us/j/492975948?pwd=bJlqZTNpNGo3S1o0YkNFM3FWQ1dIQOT09>  
or by Zoom app: **492 975 948**, password **322** or by phone: dial **669-900-6833** and enter **492 975 948** as the Meeting ID and **322** as the password.

## Announcements

### Easter Sunday Drive-Thru Communion—11:00am to Noon

Following worship today, everyone is invited to come to the DCC campus for a Drive-Thru Communion Service. Pastors Eric and Todd will offer Covid-safe to-go Communion for anyone who would like to partake in the Sacrament and experience a little in-person Easter joy. Drive-thru Communion will be offered from 11:00 am to Noon on Easter Sunday.



### Easter Offering for Shelter, Inc. Will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 4!

Through our Easter offering, we can express our love and compassion by reaching out to our neighbors who need a helping hand. The Outreach Commission has selected **Shelter, Inc.** to receive our Easter offering this year because of the effective services they offer to provide housing and supportive services to those who struggle to put a roof over their heads.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Shelter, Inc. has stepped up to provide two important emergency programs funded by the CARES Act and other federal sources. Since last April, they have been operating a temporary 65-SRO (single room occupancy) homeless shelter in a converted motel in Concord. Shelter, Inc. has also been Contra Costa County's primary distributor of federal emergency rental and utility assistance to households with children or senior citizens that have been impacted by COVID-19.

Shelter, Inc. believes that housing is a human right, and its mission is to prevent and end homelessness for low-income, homeless, and disadvantaged families and individuals by providing housing, services, support, and resources that lead to self-sufficiency. Shelter, Inc. does this by:

**Preventing Homelessness:** Homeless prevention makes good sense economically, but in human terms, the results are invaluable. Eviction prevention programs help families and singles who are experiencing a crisis and are at risk of becoming homeless. Keeping people in their homes means that jobs are retained, families are fed, and children are safe. By providing one-time financial assistance for move-in and stay-in costs, Shelter, Inc. can prevent homelessness and help people take steps toward stability. Prevention services include rental assistance, a needs assessment, and financial goal setting with a case manager.

**Ending the Cycle of Homelessness:** Homeless families and individuals are provided housing plus services including employment, education, counseling, and household budgeting to help regain self-sufficiency and permanent homes. Many of us at DCC are familiar with Shelter, Inc.'s Mountain View Family Emergency Shelter in Martinez, where, for many years, our members have provided dinners several nights each year. Pandemic safety considerations have prevented faith groups and other volunteers from preparing and serving dinners as before, so you can think of your Easter offering this year as providing Shelter, Inc. with the financial means to provide the shelter dinners that we would otherwise be providing in person.

**Providing Affordable Housing:** Shelter, Inc. owns or master leases hundreds of units throughout the county, renting to low-income vulnerable residents, many of whom have otherwise been unable to find housing, such as disabled persons and veterans.

To make your offering online, go to the [DCC Donations page](#) and select Outreach Donations / Easter Offering. Or you may write "Easter Offering" on your check made out to DCC and mail it to DCC.

*Glory be to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.* (Ephesians 3:20)

Easter blessings, *Doug Leich and Laura Beaver*, **Outreach Co-Commissioners**

## Celebration of Life for John Bassett

On **Saturday, April 24 at 2:00 pm**, we will gather on Zoom to celebrate the life of John Bassett. Pastor Eric will lead the service, with music director, John Kendall Bailey will provide musical accompaniment.



John Bassett was a long-time member of DCC and a dedicated member of the Buildings and Grounds Commission. His wife, Carol, and son, Matthew, are active members of DCC. Below is an excerpt from his obituary:

*On April 18, 2020, John Arthur Bassett passed away. He was 80 years old. John is survived by his loving wife Carol, sons Matthew, David (Amy), Jeffery (Sue) and their families, his sister Marijane (Marlin), and numerous cousins. John was a retired Electrical Engineer and a devoted member of Danville Congregational Church who left a legacy of faithful service and dedication helping maintain the Church campus as a member of the Building and Grounds Commission. He will also be missed by*

*Scout Troop 1994 and as a volunteer for East Bay Sea Serpents summer games. He was a loving husband, father, brother, friend, and child of God.*

If you would like to make a donation in memory of John, you can do so through the John Bassett Memorial Fund at DCC.

**You can attend the Zoom service using the following link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81500461484?pwd=UldRR0FkQTlySnpgVEhNM2dFN0ZEUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 815 0046 1484 **Passcode:** 989

## Pastor Out-of-Office

Pastor Eric will be on vacation April 6-18, returning April 20 and back in worship on Sunday, April 25. If you have a pastoral need, please reach out to Pastor Todd. Otherwise, all other matters will be attended to after he returns from vacation.

# An Update from Dayspring

Dayspring Preschool is Thriving!



Sonna Dhamrait, the Director of Dayspring, continues to transform the school into a safe and loving environment for children, parents, and teachers, along with offering an exceptional curriculum and learning environment. In just 3 months, Sonna has initiated many changes which align with the mission and values that Dayspring represents. One parent recently called Dayspring “an oasis of support and calm” for his family. Sonna has been building staff skills and capacity through an intentional emphasis on ongoing professional

learning, including the topics of anti-racism, developmentally appropriate curriculum, and effective use of our new technology communication and management platform, Brightwheel.

In February we launched our Inclusion Program, to ensure we can diligently meet the needs of our varied student population. Here is what was presented to the

## **Dayspring families:**

**Inclusion News —** What is Inclusion? Inclusion means that every child has access to, participates meaningfully in, and experiences positive outcomes from early childhood education and childcare programs. Why are we adding inclusion into the curriculum for Dayspring? Research reveals that students of all abilities who attend inclusive early childhood programs are better equipped to learn, live, and work in communities. What are the benefits of Inclusion? The benefits of inclusion are numerous, not only for children with special needs and their families but for all children. When we include all children in inclusion programs, they learn acceptance of other people, and that each person has unique abilities. Children learn from each other. With inclusion in place, children with special needs are provided an equal opportunity to participate in the same types of programs and activities as typically developing children. Some of the benefits of inclusion for all children are friendship skills, peer models, problem-solving skills, positive self-image, and respect for others.

Due to the pandemic, Dayspring has had to limit enrollment as County Public Health restricts the number of students we can have in a classroom. We have had an increase in the total number of students from 54 to 62 in the last month. We expect to add more students if the county increases the classroom size. We are seeing lots of enthusiasm from our current families for the summer school program, especially for the Intensive Kindergarten program for students getting ready for Kindergarten in the fall. Sonna is busy giving tours for summer and fall enrollment and expects to be full.

**Ministers—The Entire Congregation**

**Church Staff**

**The Rev. Eric Sherlock**

*Senior Pastor*

**The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley**

*Associate Pastor*

**John Kendall Bailey**

*Music Director*

**Mary-Marie Deauclaire**

*Handbell Director*

**Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury**

*Office Manager*

**Nicole Doyle**

*Nursery Attendant*

The **DCC Prayer Team** prays daily for those in need of prayers.  
If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else,  
contact a pastor or send an email to [prayers@danvillechurch.org](mailto:prayers@danvillechurch.org).  
All requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

**Sonna Dhamrait**, *Dayspring Preschool Director*

[dayspringpreschool.org](http://dayspringpreschool.org)

Black Trans Lives Matter  
Black Queer Lives Matter  
Black Women Matter  
Black Men Matter  
Black Disabled People Matter  
Black Children Matter  
Black Undocumented People Matter  
**BLACK LIVES MATTER**



**Danville Congregational Church**

*United Church of Christ*

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