

**DOXOLOGY\*** *together*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**SCRIPTURE**

Acts 9:1-6

**HOMILY** "You'll Never Walk Alone" (Community Is Companionship)  
Part 2 - How to Transform Community

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION\***

see insert

*If you would like to remain where you are  
an usher will provide a communion packet for you at your pew.*

*Be Thou My Vision* 451  
*Breathe on Me, Breath of God* 420  
*O Church of God, United* 547

**HYMN\***

*Thine Be the Glory* 308

**BENEDICTION**

Go now in peace.  
Stand firm in your faith. Be strong. Be brave.  
Let everything you do be done in love.

**POSTLUDE**

*Chaconne in G Minor* Louis Couperin  
arranged by Joseph Bonnet

**OFFERING—** Your generosity and gifts enable Rayne's ministries, thank you! Offerings will be received in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary behind the last pew. You can also give online ([raynenola.org/contribute](http://raynenola.org/contribute)), by texting "giverayne" to 73256, or using the QR code.



**WE WELCOME ALL—** All are invited to participate fully in the life of this community of faith and love regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual orientation. We welcome all with open hearts, open minds, and open doors! Those who wish to become members are encouraged to contact: [jay@raynenola.org](mailto:jay@raynenola.org).

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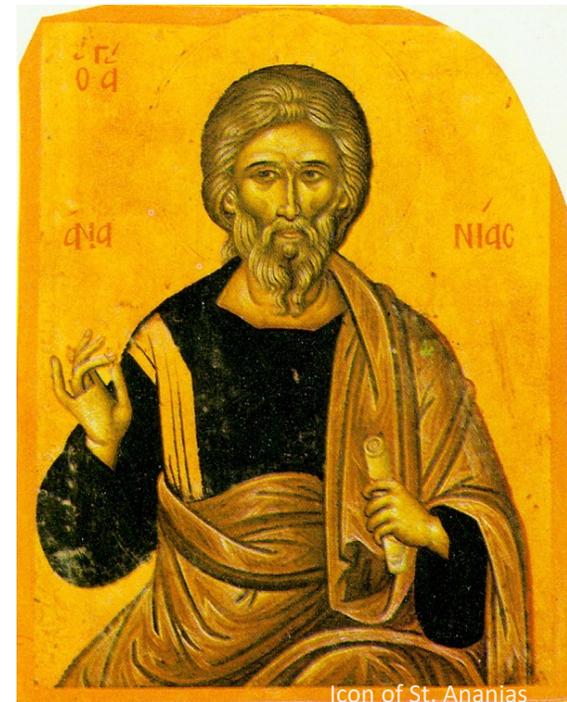
*Rayne*  
Memorial United Methodist Church

*for 146 years shining the light of God's love and grace*

3900 Saint Charles Avenue - New Orleans, Louisiana 70115  
504.899.3431 - [www.raynenola.org](http://www.raynenola.org)

**THE THIRD SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**

May 1, 2022



Icon of St. Ananias

Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in honor Barbara and Jeff Duke  
on their fortieth wedding anniversary.

# THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

*Welcome to All!*

All are invited to participate in any of our activities,  
and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

## GATHERING

Rev. Jay Hogewood  
"Blessed are you who see the proof of your own becoming, the places where you are worn from so much loving. The laugh lines...the crow's feet...the stretch marks. And yes, the places that hurt. That are visibly still wounded and sore, that change how you move or how you live. *Blessed are you*, seeing all this evidence of loss, yes, but also of life, because what is real is now showing through. *Blessed are you* who do not despise your realness. It may hurt. But this is what we hoped for, right? To live and love. To be loved. To have our experiences show on our faces... It is the real life of Jesus in us, being made visible, as all our seams show." ~ Kate Bowler & Jessica Richie, *Good Enough*

## PRELUDE

*Communion*

Louis Vierne  
Marcus St. Julien

## CALL TO WORSHIP\* *responsively*

Mary Brown, 8:45 am  
Jared Frank, 11:00 am

Sing praises to God, you people of faith.

**We give thanks to the Lord of light and life, who heals and restores.**

Praise God, who transforms us, who heals and loves us.

**Praise God, who clothes us with joy and mercy.**

Praise the Lord, who forgives us and inspires us to forgive others.

**We give thanks to you, our God, today and always.**

## HYMN\*

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

160

## AFFIRMATION OF OUR SHARED FAITH *responsively*

The abounding love and guidance of Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us affirm our trust in the grace of Jesus, our Savior:

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?*

**No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the one who loves us. We trust that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*The People Standing

## RESPONSE *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* 57 (verses 1, 3, 7)

O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

**In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;  
anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.**

## THE RED STEPS

A Special Time for Our Children

*At this time, children age 3 years old through 2nd grade  
may attend children's church in the education building.*

## MISSION MOMENT

Adelle Bergman Valenti  
Crescent City Café, director

## OFFERING

*Ushers with offering plates will pass by each pew. Please pass your gift to the usher  
or place in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.*

Randy Bunnell, 8:45 am

*Easter*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
words by George Herbert

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise without delays,  
who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise with him mayst rise:  
that, as his death calcined thee to dust,  
his life may make thee gold, and much more just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part with all thy art.  
The cross taught all wood to resound his name, who bore the same.  
His stretched sinews taught all strings,  
what key is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song pleasant and long:  
or since all music is but three parts vied and multiplied;  
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,  
and make up our defects with his sweet art.

Chancel Choir, 11 am

*Invocation*

Edward L. Larson

Create in me, O God, a pure heart;  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

# THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the table!*

## HYMN

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

160

1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

**Refrain:**

**Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**

2. Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud; whilst answering  
echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud. [Refrain]

3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go;  
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. [Refrain]

4. At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their heavenly home, Jerusalem the blest. [Refrain]

5. Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore,  
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore. [Refrain]

## HYMN

*Thine Be the Glory*

308

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory  
thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone  
away, kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

**Refrain:**

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

2. Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of  
triumph sing, for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.  
(Refrain)

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught  
without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors,  
through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home  
above. (Refrain)

## INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent  
of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess - we can be so certain that we know what is best.  
We head into life following our own desires and our own way. Forgive us;  
interrupt us with the blinding light of your grace. Grant us the gift of new  
vision. When we despair and sadness overwhelms us, and when hope fails us,  
teach us to walk in the beauty of your love. Open us up, Lord, that we may  
see your path, walk in deeper trust, and be loving witnesses of your glory.

Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

### PARDON

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning. The Lord is at work,  
transforming our brokenness and sorrow, giving us a hope for a new day.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*singing together:*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth  
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!***

And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves  
in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering  
for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*singing together:*

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and  
wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the  
world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood. By your spirit make us one with  
Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ  
comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

**Through your Son Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit  
in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God.**

*singing together:*

***Amen, amen, amen!***

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *together*