

# **Peacham Congregational Church**

56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862

802-592-3330



We are an Open and Affirming Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.

[www.peachamchurch.org](http://www.peachamchurch.org)

**Order of Worship  
Easter Sunday  
April 5, 2026**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "Easter Joy" E.S. Hosmer, 1926

Gathering Song #257: "This is the Day" (vs. 1 & 2)

Responsive Call to Worship

This is the day...**when tears are wiped away.**

This is the day...**when shattered hearts are mended.**

This is the day...**when fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day the Lord...**rolls away the stone of fear.**

This is the day the Lord...**throws off the shroud of death.**

This is the day the Lord...**goes ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day the Lord has made...**the tombs of our hearts to open.**

This is the day the Lord has made...**sin to lose its power over us.**

This is the day the Lord has made...**our lives full of joy everlasting.**

This is the day the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice that Christ is risen!**

This is the day the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Opening Hymn #205: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, outcasts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Peace be with you.

**Congregation: And also, with you.**

Leader: Now share the Peace of Christ with one another.

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (New Zealand Book of Common Prayer, adapted)

**Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your realm of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

Response

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.  
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.***

Offering & Mission

Easter Doxology #49

***Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing today with one accord.  
The life laid down, the life restored;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.***

Unison Prayer of Dedication (4)

**God of joy and delight, open our hearts to receive the risen Christ with the hope of new life in Paradise. May that promise empower us to live in the Eternal Now as the Body of Christ, resurrected by love to continue your work in this world. Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Gospel Lesson: John 20: 1-18

Anthem: "Alleluia" Randall Thompson

Sermon: "Calmly Plotting the Resurrection"

Hymn #216: "The Day of Resurrection"

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Sung Invitation (Responsive): "Morning Has Broken"

Leader: May God be with you!

Congregation: **And with you also!**

Leader: Lift hearts and voices gladly to God.

Congregation: **We come together at the Lord's table, to taste salvation, fresh from the Word.**

Communion Prayer

Song of Adoration: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

**Holy, holy, holy, God beyond our seeing,  
thoughts and ways above the sky, and deeper than the sea.  
God so far beyond us, yet closer than breathing:  
come now among us at our holy feast!**

Words of Institution: On the Night

Communion is Served

Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Wondrous God, we give thanks for this holy meal shared in your spirit of love. May this bread and cup be more than a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. May it be an ever-present reminder of Jesus' call to live out our holy story of grace. May this feast fill us with renewed courage, commitment, and compassion to put fear aside, risk the improbable, and transform the world. Alleluia!**

Closing Hymn #493: "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

Benediction

Response #345: "God Be with You Til We Meet Again" (vs. 1)

Postlude: Theme from "As Thousands Cheer" Irving Berlin (1933)

## Announcements

April 5, 2026

Our 2nd quarter mission is Heifer International. Heifer International believes that ending hunger and poverty begins with agriculture. Starting with a seed investment of livestock or agriculture given to a family, Heifer mentors that family in building a business and gaining access to supply chains and markets. These families are able to earn a living and continuously support their communities as they train the next generation of farmers, ranchers, and female business owners.

The Peacham Congregational Church collects food for the Danville Food Shelf every Sunday morning from 9-11 a.m. Food is collected in a basket at the back of the Sanctuary. During the week, donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the green bins on the covered walkway outside the kitchen door. Please note that the Food Shelf cannot use food that is beyond the expiration date or that has been opened.

The Danville Open Door Food Shelf is asking for the following weekly rotation of donations:

- 1st Sunday - Bread
- 2nd Sunday - Butter
- 3rd Sunday - Cheese (8oz. blocks)
- 4th Sunday - Eggs
- [5th Sunday - Cheese]

Upcoming Schedule:

- April 12 - Ed Nilson "Never, Ever Give Up!"
- April 19 - Ken Vos "Another Kind of Happiness"
- April 26 - John Morris "A focus on the Exodus Story"

### Information about Peacham Congregational Church

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Join us online at [peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday](https://peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday)

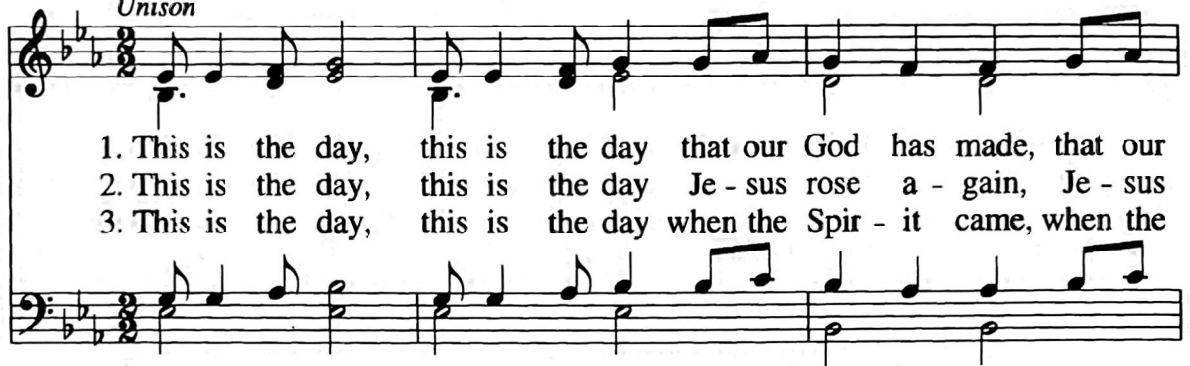
For general inquiries, email [information@peachamchurch.com](mailto:information@peachamchurch.com)

Church Admin.....	Patty Gardner	Treasurer.....	Bruce Westcott
Collector.....	Ann Goss	Accompanist .....	Bruce Westcott
Sexton.....	Jeff Lane	Web Ministry.....	Jonathan R. Potter
Church Council President & Moderator .....	John Marshall		

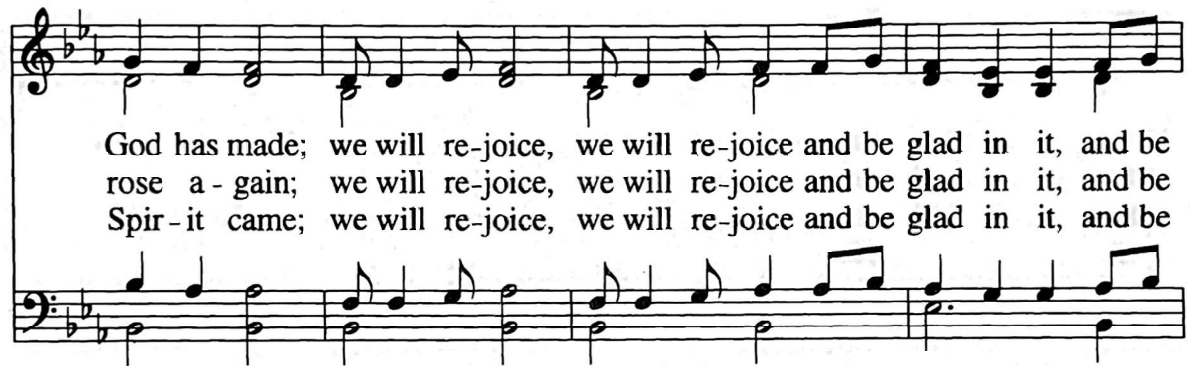
Deacons: Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy,  
Patty Gardner, Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus

## This Is the Day

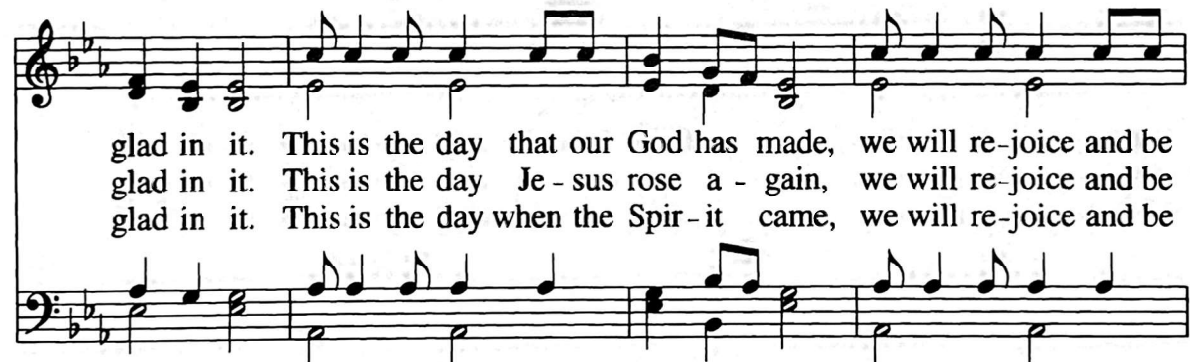
*Unison*



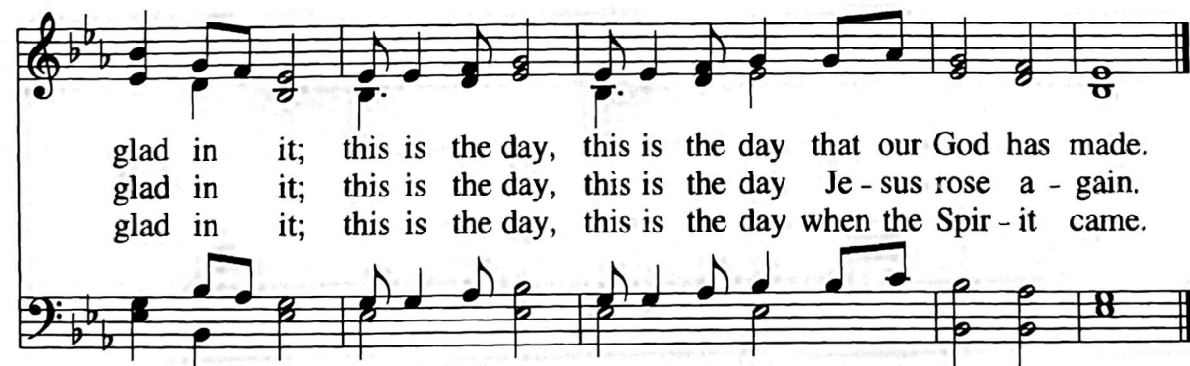
1. This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our  
 2. This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, Je - sus  
 3. This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came, when the



God has made; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be  
 rose a - gain; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be  
 Spir - it came; we will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be



glad in it. This is the day that our God has made, we will re-joyce and be  
 glad in it. This is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, we will re-joyce and be  
 glad in it. This is the day when the Spir - it came, we will re-joyce and be



glad in it; this is the day, this is the day that our God has made.  
 glad in it; this is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain.  
 glad in it; this is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came.

WORDS: St. 1 para. Les Garrett, 1967, alt., sts. 2,3, traditional, alt.  
 MUSIC: Les Garrett, 1967

THIS IS THE DAY  
 8 10.8 10.99.85

The text of stanza 1 is Psalm 118:24. Leslie Garrett has been  
 an evangelical minister in New Zealand and Australia.

Words, st. 1, music © 1967 Scripture in Song,  
 (a div. of Integrity Music, Inc.)

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,  
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,  
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led,  
 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say:  
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,  
 Praise to thee by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
 Dy - ing once, he all doth save,  
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like him, like him we rise,  
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:  
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,  
 Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.  
 MUSIC: Arr. from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN  
 77.77 w. alleluias

Charles is the 'singing' Wesley. While he freely aided his brother John, Charles remained within the Church of England his entire life.

## The Day of Resurrection!

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
 our Christ in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;  
 the world re - sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
 And, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain  
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 his own "All hail," and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
 for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that has no end.

WORDS: John of Damascus, 8th century; tr. John M. Neale, 1862, alt.  
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1836

LANCASHIRE  
 76.76D

Taken from the moment on Easter eve, in Eastern rite, when all worshipers light candles, filling the church with a glow. The original writer was a Christian in Muslim Damascus who went from wealth to voluntary poverty, scholasticism and hymn writing!

# In the Bulb There Is a Flower

493

*Unison*

1. In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
2. There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
3. In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise; but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

PROMISE  
87.87D

Sleeth was a well-known author/composer of numerous anthems for children and adults.  
This hymn was dedicated to her husband, Methodist minister Ronald Sleeth.

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