

# SOUTHSIDE FELLOWSHIP

Creating brave spaces that nurture and inspire the human spirit

*Easter Sunday*

*April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

Not the empty tomb but the uninhabited cross. Look long enough and you will see the arms put on leaves. Not a crown of thorns, but a crown of flowers. . . R. S. Thomas

## GATHERING

**Music** *Now the Green Blade Rises* Brass

**Poetry** *Don't Go Back to Sleep* Rumi

**Music** *Were You There?* Brass

**The Story from Scripture** John 20:1-18

### **Alleluia**

Leader: Awake. Arise.

People: *Christ is risen!*

Leader: Awake. Arise. Christ is risen.

People: *Alleluia.*

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again. Alleluia!**

### **Easter Hymns**

*Low in the Grave He Lay* VT 333

*Lift Your Glad Voices* VT 340

**Poetry** *Christ came juggling from the tomb*  
Eugene Warren

**Easter Hymn** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VT 315

### **Flowering the Cross**

**Easter Hymn** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* VT 322

## LISTENING FOR THE WORD

**The Poet's Word** *The Heavens Rumble Alleluia*

**Sermon** Debbie Bledsoe

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Hymn** *This Joyful Eastertide* VT 352

**Offering** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Brass

**Sharing our lives and our prayers**

**Praying in the Way of Jesus**

## THE WORD IN THE WORLD

**Hymn** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* VT 346

**Benediction** *Spring Song* Lucille Clifton



Jyoti Sahi (Indian, 1944–)  
*Resurrection* 2007 Oil on canvas

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*Southside Fellowship is an inclusive Anabaptist/Mennonite congregation that understands faith as a journey. At the core of our community is the boundless love of God, the justice-centered life of Jesus, and the mystery of the Spirit. We welcome all people to join us, including those who have been excluded elsewhere because of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, economic status, marital status, age, or religious uncertainty.*