

[Second Universalist Society, New York City]

from UNIVERSALIST CHURCHES
The Four Societies of That Denomination in New York

The Sawyer Memorial Church, in 127th street, near Lexington avenue [Harlem], is built of brick, with granite front, in the Gothic style. The doors are of natural wood. On either side and above are stained glass windows. The interior is tasteful. The walls are painted a light yellow, with slight ornamentation. The windows at the sides are of squares of blue and yellow glass. Across the ceiling stretch massive rafters of natural wood. The gallery at the rear, the pews, the pulpit, and the three armchairs behind it are of yellow pine. Over the pulpit, under a circular window of stained glass, is the inscription, "He is Risen." The choir and organ are in the gallery.

The church represents the Second Universalist Society of New York, which was organized in 1828. Their first place of worship was in Grand street. They next occupied a church in Orchard street, near Broome, for twenty-five years. This church was sold, and for five years meetings were held in the building of the Historical Society. Public worship was after this time discontinued, until six years ago, when the Society purchased an old wooden church on the site of the present one, afterward erecting the building now occupied, which was completed two years ago. The pastor is the Rev. D. M. Hodge. In his absence, yesterday morning, the Rev. C. [Cyrus] H. Fay spoke upon the sources of prejudice against the Universalists as a sect. Among the members are J. Y. Watkins, Jr., J. M. Sledman, A. A. Butler, Samuel Weekes, and O. L. Stickney, Jr. The pastor's salary is \$1,500.

The Sun, New York NY, Mon. 15 May 1882

Transcribed on 7 Feb 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY