



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, April 9, 2023
Easter Sunday



There is no Sunday School today; children will remain in worship with their families. Fidget bags are available at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Please be aware that our services are livestreamed, and any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.

Prelude *Fugue in C Major*

Velda Graham Bell, organ

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Mark Harvey

One: Once there was sadness –

All: Now we are clothed with Easter joy!

One: Once there was mourning –

All: Now there is the possibility of rejoicing!

One: Once there were tears and silence –

All: Now laughter has returned and praise abounds!

One: Once there was hunger and longing –

All: Now we are gathered together in Christ and fed with God's love!

One: For Christ has risen –

All: He has risen indeed!

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Scripture Reading

Mary Harvey

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words and, returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

*** Hymn** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

UM Hymnal #302, v. 1-4

Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe in an EASTER GOD, who transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope. We believe in the RISEN CHRIST, who befriends us on our roads of searching and worry; who touches us through song and silence, word and gesture; who calls us by name to enter into life. We believe in the LIVING SPIRIT, the hidden presence behind every resurrection, who beckons us to leave the tomb and live in the life power of Christ. We are an Easter People. We believe in resurrection and new life.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem *Rays of Hope*

Sandra Eithun

Cast in Bronze; Bill Alexander, director

Children's Message

Jojo Coffin- Langdon, director of family ministries

* Hymn *Now the Green Blade Riseth*

UM Hymnal #311; v. 1-3

Scripture Reading

Mark Harvey

Portions of John 11

One: On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

All: Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

One: Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." ... When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. ... Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Anthem *King of Kings*

arr. John Bolin

Sanctuary Choir and Easter Orchestra; Derek Bromme, director

Sermon *Jesus Taught Us ... How to Find Resurrection and Life* Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* attachment

Offering Invitation and Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Thine Be the Glory* UM Hymnal #308; v. 1, 2
*If you would like to join in the choir to sing the Hallelujah Chorus, please
come up to the choir risers during this hymn. Music will be available.*

Anthem "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

Benediction Pastor Jeanine Alexander
One: Christ is Risen!
All: Christ is Risen indeed!
One: Christ is Risen!
All: So we have hope and healing!
One: Go forth knowing and sharing resurrection life.

Postlude *My Spirit Be Joyful* J.S. Bach
Earl Saleminck and Charles Leibfried, trumpet; Velda Graham Bell, organ

** please stand as you are comfortable*

Easter Orchestra

Jenna Mattson, violin	Adair Ballavance, bassoon
Kevin Peterson, viola	Saige Mattson, Andrea Flinner and Ellen Hill, French horn
Alex Flinner, double bass	Earl Saleminck and Charles Leibfried, trumpet
Shelley Gruskin, flute	Derek Bromme, trombone
Libby Gaalaas, clarinet	Thomas Racette, timpani



*Please fill out the Connect Cards each week. They are replacing the attendance pads formerly found in the pews. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, places where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

Guests: Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.

This morning's offering will help the ministries and missions of our church and of the Union Gospel Mission.

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Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

1. Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2. Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3. Christ is ris - en! Earth and hea - ven nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown. Heal -
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend. Je -
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!" God

- ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!