

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

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"A Holy, Healthy, and Loving Community Striving to Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"



April 11, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- -Dr. Jessica Scott

Acolyte, Misha Matheny

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Last Sunday was Easter, a day on which the only fitting call to worship was announcement of the Event—the resurrection, the greatest act of life-saving imaginable. Through it God let us laugh at our death sentence by punctuating it with a living exclamation mark. On this day and in days to come may we remember that there are times when God restates the joyful resurrection proclamation.

People: **Abilities faded and forgotten are channeled toward new creativity — that's resurrection**

Leader: Friendships once killed by frosty misunderstanding bloom again in worm reconciliation — that's resurrection.

People: **Hopes glimmering and gone are rekindled by expressions of caring — that's resurrection.**

Leader: Faith, dulled by lack of exercise, dances again to God's everyday rhythms — that's resurrection.

ALL: **WE WORSHIP THE GOD WHOSE RESURRECTING POWER LIVES ON AS DOES THE CHRIST WE SERVE.**

OPENING PRAYER (*Unison*)

God, you are the source of our life. Gather us now together, we pray. Form us into a holy community of your own people, molding us by the breath of your Holy Spirit, and revealing in this corporate body the face of your anointed Christ. Amen.

HYMN ----- "Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.

Christ has brought us heaven's choices; heavenly music, let it ring:

"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Easter people, let us sing.

Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.

For our Risen Lord empowers us to triumph over every foe.

Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song.

When the cares of life o'erwhelm us, Easter people, sing this song:

"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Everlasting triumph song.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON ----- John 20:19-31

Susan Wilmerink, liturgist

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

MUSICAL OFFERING----- "The Gift of Love"-----arr. By Mark Albrecht

Brett Miller, clarinet; Dr. Jessica Scott, piano

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON -----Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

SERMON ----- “Looking More Resurrected” ----- -Rev. Harry Jenkins
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN ----- “Trust and Obey”

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of his love until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows, are for them who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet, or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go; never fear, only trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

