

CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP

APRIL 17, 2022

GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING PRAYER

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

We gather this morning to give you thanks and praise.

Hear us, O God. Thanks you. We cry out Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

THE STORY

John 20:1-18

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 118

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Let all the people proclaim,
"God's steadfast love endures forever!"

God's steadfast love endures forever!

The Lord is my strength, my song, and my salvation!

Shouts of joy resound in the tents of the righteous!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!

We will not die but live.

We will proclaim what the Lord has done.

We enter the gates of the Lord and give thanks,
for this is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

#302

PRAYER

based on Acts 10

Holy and Living God, like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light, open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another, and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE STORY CONTINUES

A Love Letter from God -The Super Surprise

Glenys Nellist, author

Reflection on the Story

Pastor Alaire Willits

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Generous God, we offer these gifts as our testimony to your glory and as our commitment as your disciples. Bless our gifts to your work in the world and to your reign here on earth. Through your blessing of our gifts, may death be destroyed and hope fill all of creation. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Alleluia

#186

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

When directed, you may come forward by the center aisle and receive the elements. Step to the communion rail, where you may pause, or kneel as you prefer. Return to your place by the side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask the Pastor.

PRAYER

Jesus our Host, we yearn for your Communion; we yearn for the hope of new life; we yearn to meet you here. And yet, despite your invitation, we find ourselves stumbling on our way. Forgive us. Hear now in silence the confessions of your people. *Time of silence*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Acts 10:43

Hear the good news! "All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name!"

In the name of the risen Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of the risen Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF SENDING

In the Garden

#314

WE GO TO SERVE

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

THE LIGHT LEADS US FORTH

Bind Us Together

#2226

*POSTLUDE

††We follow the Light of Christ into the world to serve††

**Please stand in body or in spirit as you are able.*

COMING UP

Wednesday, April 13, afterschool – 5pm Methodist Middlers (gr 5-8) and Dynamic Disciples (K-4) meet for food, fun, and learning.

Next Sunday, we will be presenting Bibles to those gr 3 and older.

Saturday, April 30, All-church Bake Sale. Proceeds for camperships.

Donations and help requested. Sign up on back table.

Thanks to Nicole Nicoletti-Calvert for her artwork depicting our spiritual journey and Easter. You have blessed us!

Liturgy today written by Dr. Marcia McFee,

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Easter Celebration

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