



Order of Worship
April 24, 2022
Second Sunday of Easter
10:00 AM

10:00 Online Worship
YouTube Channel "Harmony UMCVA"

Welcome

Prelude

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

Call to Worship

Sandy Bruner

Behind closed doors

God's Spirit blows over us

Through closed hearts

God's Spirit works in us

In closed lives broken open by God's resurrecting power,

**We come to worship God, to wonder at the work of the Spirit,
 and to offer our praise for the Risen Christ!**

***Opening Prayer**

Love Incarnate, Creator of the tulips and robins, sustainer of the stars and galaxies, redeemer of all that has life and breath, you welcome us from the varied areas of our lives. You greet us by speaking,

"Peace be with you. Do not doubt, but believe."

As we worship this morning, singing our alleluias for life overcoming death, keep whispering to us,

"Peace be with you. Do not doubt, but believe."

Assure us of your presence surrounding us and sustaining us with your words,
“Peace be with you. Do not doubt, but believe.”

Hymn

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

UMH 304

(See last page for words)

Children’s Message

Pastor Debra

Morning Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

All Praying

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.

Ministry of Music

He’s a Personal Savior

Choir

Prayer for Illumination

All Praying

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reading (NRSV)

John 20:19-29

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

19 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.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Jesus and Thomas

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 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.”

26 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.” 27

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." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 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."

New Testament Reading (NIV)

Acts 5:27-32

The Apostles before the Sadducees

²⁷ When they (the Sadducees) had brought them (the Apostles), they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Sermon

Pastor Debra

Prayer of Confession

We confess that we far too often want proof for everything, O Lord. We want proof that we can trust in others; we want proof that everything in life is going to turn out all right. It is easy for us to point our finger at Thomas who was honest about his fears. He had seen so much healing and hope. But those hopes seemed dashed when Jesus died. Even the news of the Resurrection did not completely lift the darkness from his life. Jesus said to him, just as he says to us, "Peace, be still. Do not doubt but believe!" Lord, forgive our unbelief! Forgive the many times when we think and act in ways which are hurtful and mean. Heal our wounds. Bind up our spirits in the cords of your compassion. Help us to fully place our trust in you, with our hearts, and minds, and spirits, and souls. For we ask this in your blessed Name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Peace be with you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. Jesus came to bring you new life. Believe in him. Receive the blessing of hope and peace. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

UMH 888

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God

was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

UMH 70

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.

Invitation to The Offering

What must be done to convince us of God's unending love? What further proof do we need? We have only to look around us to see what the Lord has done. We have only to look to the One who poured out his life for us, who offered himself in our place, and whose Spirit casts out all doubt and fear. What can we offer in response? Only our very selves, and the fruit of our lives and labor.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Here Faith Abides

**Doxology*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication* (All Praying)

In our songs and in our words, we give praise to you, Lord. In our worship, study, and service, we bless you. Loving God, you breathe life into our mortal bodies; you watch over us and fill our every need. For all that you have done; for all that you have given to us, we worship you. Jesus, our Savior, with all that we are, and with all that we have, we offer you our thanks and praise. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Christ Is Alive

UMH 318

(See last page for words)

Benediction

Peace to you from the One who is and was, and is to come. Grace and peace to you from the One who loves us and frees us, the One who gives us repentance and forgiveness. As God

sent Jesus into the world, so the Spirit now sends us to continue God's holy work. To God be glory and dominion forever and ever! Amen.

Sung Benediction

He Lives

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me

Along life's narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

Postlude

Crown Him Lord of Lords

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 Lord empowered 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 in trouble move the faster
To our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of Heavenly throngs.*

Christ Is Alive

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and dwell in every place and time.*

*Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior in the Godhead reigns.*

*In every insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*