

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Dr. Will Address

PRELUDE.....*O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing*.....Brass Ensemble
[...the King of heaven o'er death
and hell rose triumphing.] E. Ray Peebles, organ
arr. Stephen Walters

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Dr. David Hobson

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

We have an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously!

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; for the Lord has comforted his people.

Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory.

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”No. 251
Stanzas 1-4
Setting by Paul Sjolund

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Rev. Emily Blair

MUSICAL OFFERING.....“Easter”Steve Valenzuela, bass
from *Five Mystical Songs*
Ralph Vaughan Williams

† SCRIPTURE READING.....John 20:11-18.....Lee DuCote

† GLORIA PATRI.....No.33

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.*

CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Mitzi Nix

MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

THE LORD'S PRAYER.....Congregation (speaks in unison)
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.

†
PRAYER RESPONSE.....No. 441 [Excerpt]
*For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power,
and the Glory forever - Amen.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Resurrection Hymn*.....Chancel Choir
[See No. 260 for text] Brass Ensemble
arr. Steven Strite

† DOXOLOGYTraditional
*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!*

MESSAGE.....TRANSFORMATIONAL QUESTION OF EASTER:.....Dr. Steven Bell
WHY ARE YOU WEeping?

Why Are You Weeping?

Responding to the Risen Lord.

Scripture Memory Verse

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

— John 20:30 and 31

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Thine Is the Glory”No. 255
Setting by Robert Hobby

(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Dr. Steven Bell

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

† BENEDICTIONDr. Steven Bell

† SENDING FORTH.....“Hallelujah”Chancel Choir
from *Messiah*Brass Ensemble
George Frideric Handel

POSTLUDE.....“Toccata”E. Ray Peebles, organ
from *Symphony #5*
Charles-Marie Widor

8:30: *Banner Carrier – Lorynn Farrington • Crucifer – Sadie Farrington*
Acolytes – Lila and Evie Holley-Lerchie

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Grayson Magill • Crucifer – Leeda Bradley*
Acolytes – Genna Bradley and Landon Magill

† *Those who are able may stand.* ‡ *Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

***Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service.*

• *3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center*

• *K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary*

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas