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Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given by Ann and Charles Wilkins to the Glory of God and in honor of
their anniversary and in memory of loved ones.
If you would like to donate flowers for the Altar, please contact Becky Kirtley at 252.331.3431.

Assisting in Today's Worship Service

- Rev. Karen Easter-Bayne — *Lead Pastor*
- Rev. Jeremy Morris — *Associate Pastor*
- Rev. Ally Deal — *Associate Pastor*
- Michael S. Brannon — *Director of Music*
- Chancel Choir, Jubilee Handbells — *Musicians*
- Martha Gunsallus — *Acolyte*
- Dennis Sanders — *Cross Bearer*
- Shirley Feagin — *Reader*
- Madeliene Duncan — *Altar Guild Volunteer*
- Jason Gardner, Keith Anderson — *Sound Technicians*

EASTER SUNDAY



FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MARCH 31, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD’S PRESENCE

At the sound of the chimes, please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

Opening Voluntary Easter Alleluia Aloÿs Ottenwälder

Easter Acclamation
Liturgist: Jesus Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Bell Peal

All stand as able.
Processional Hymn 302 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today EASTER HYMN
Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where’s thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!
Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!
King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia! Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia! Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

Remain standing.

Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles’ Creed
**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
 the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of
 God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

Responsorial Hymn 71
**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**

Remain standing.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Gospel Lesson — John 20:1-18
Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Response Alleluias David Conte

Be seated.

Sermon Resurrection Life Rev. Karen Easter-Bayne

Moment of Silent Reflection

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn 304 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.**

Invitation to Offering

Anthem Resurrection Hymn (See What a Morning) arr. Steven Strite
**Alleluia! See what a morning gloriously bright, with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem. Folded the grave
clothes, tomb filled with light, as the angels announce, “Christ is risen!” See God’s salvation plan, wrought
in love, Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice, Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives: Christ is risen from the
dead! Alleluia! See Mary weeping, “Where is He laid?” As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name; It’s the Master, the Lord, raised to life again. The voice that
spans the years, speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us, Will sound ‘till he appears, for He lives,
Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! One with the Father, Ancient of Days, Through the Spirit who
clothes faith with certainty, Honor and blessing, glory and praise to the King crowned with power and
authority. And we are raised with Him, death is dead, Love has won, Christ has conquered. And we shall
reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!**

All stand as able.

Hymn 94 Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, 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!**

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**

SENDING FORTH

All stand as able.

Hymn 308 Thine Be the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS
**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**
**Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**
**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**

Dismissal with Blessing

Closing Voluntary Toccata from Symphony No. 5 Charles Widor