

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

APRIL 4, 2021

FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION
FIRST SUNDAY OF EASTER



Easter
SUNDAY

*We respond to God's call by welcoming everyone
regardless of ability, age, ethnicity, race, gender identity,
sexual orientation or socio-economic background.*

*To proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ,
we affirm that all may share in the full life, ministry, fellowship,
responsibilities and blessing of our congregation.*

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

Air on a G String
Overture (from Messiah)

J. S. Bach
G. F. Handel

Deberah Haferkamp, violin; Brian Elder, violin; Tom Winter, viola;
Jake Brookman, cello; Joe Paule, Jr., bass; Dr. Leon Burke, III, conductor

WELCOME

Joan Musbach, *Announcer*

TOLLING THE BELL

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

INTERLUDE

Easter Acclamation
Canterbury Bells

Kenneth T. Kosche

ACCLAMATION

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Charles Wesley

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

RITUAL OF APPROACH

Litany (Responsive – Leader; **People**)

Sovereign God, early in the morning when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty and terror; you gave birth to all that we know.

Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a cradle announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us..

Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: you shouldered and suffered the cross..

Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, or destroyed you..

Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

This morning, in the multi-colored company of your Church on earth and in heaven, all Christians living are celebrating your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your love for us; so we pray...

Corporate Confession (Unison)

Sovereign God, bring new life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Words of Assurance

To all and to each, upon his community and upon Jesus' friends: Where regret is genuine Jesus pronounces pardon and grants us the right to begin again.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

INTERLUDE

From All That Dwell Below the Skies
Canterbury Bells

SHARING THE WORD

From the Gospels

Mark 16:1-8

Rev. Merrimon Boyd, *Student Pastor*

The Inclusive Bible

When the Sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought perfumed oils so that they could anoint Jesus. Very early, just after sunrise on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.

They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked, they found that the huge stone had been rolled back.

On entering the tomb, they saw a young person sitting at the right, dressed in a white robe. They were very frightened, but the youth reassured them: "Do not be amazed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the One who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. Now go and tell the disciples and Peter, Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee, where you will see him just as he told you.' "

They made their way out and fled from the tomb bewildered and trembling; but they said nothing to anyone, because they were so afraid.

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

ANTHEM

The Trumpet Shall Sound (from Messiah)
Chamber Ensemble, with David Sanderson, trumpet
Dr. Leon Burke, III, conductor and soloist

G. F. Handel

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Beyond Fear and Trembling"
(Transcript was not available at publication)

Rev. Denoon

INTERLUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Chamber Ensemble, with David Sanderson, trumpet; and Erin Prange, flute

J. S. Bach

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INTERLUDE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Canterbury Bells

WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH OTHERS

Joan Musbach

Invitation

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of ceaseless new beginnings, work your new creation among us. As you did with Peter, so you have called each of us by name. Receive our gifts, that through them and our grateful service we may be led to those in need, that they may rise again. In the name of the resurrected Christ we pray. Amen.

Song of Praise

Doxology

Tune: OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, you heavenly host —
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

RITUAL FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Introductory Words (Responsive)

Dear friends, as we come to this font of living water, let us recall the meaning of baptism. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

Remembering Water's Blessings

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and community, in the breaking of bread, and in prayer?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Distribution of Water

Covenant

Joan Musbach

We who are called of God into this Christian community covenant together: to seek to know the will of God, to experience the joy and struggle of discipleship, to proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ, and to work for peace and justice among all people. We trust God's promise of grace and forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our trials and rejoicing.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah! (from Messiah)

G. F. Handel

DISMISSAL

Joan Musbach

Easter Flower Sponsorships



In Loving Memory of

Carol McCoy Doug, Kristy, and Jack Barton
Kenneth Musbach Joan Musbach
Ed and Thelma Wohlgemuth Joan Musbach

In Honor of

Carolyn Woodsmall Doug, Kristy, and Jack Barton
Family and Easters Past Marilyn Davis
Larry Hensley Rosemary Hensley
Fred Kaul BJ Kaul

In Celebration of

Peggy Schenk Marilyn Davis
Family Linda & Lazlo Kopetti
Loved Ones Pat and Ken Schutte



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