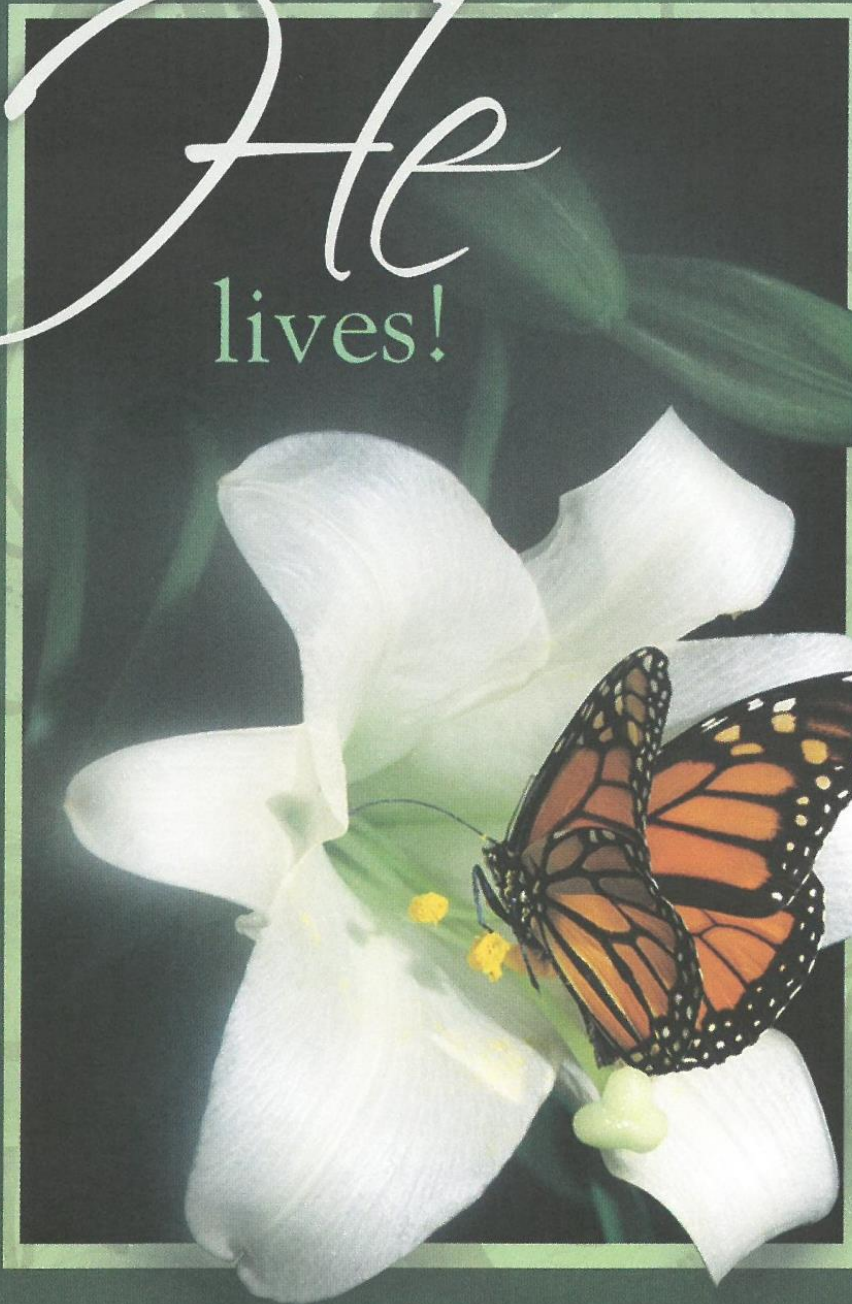


Contemporary
10:00 a.m. Full Text

He
lives!



Welcome to Easter at Epworth! Although we are celebrating Easter online today, we anticipate holding an Easter gathering when the quarantine is lifted. For us as followers of Jesus, every Sunday represents a little Easter. We welcome those joining us for the first time online, and invite you to visit our website www.eumcrb.org, for more information.

We have spent our Lenten journey walking with Jesus during the last 24 hours of his life. On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the first 24 hours of his risen life. Jesus lives! Death does NOT have the final word in this world. God speaks the final word: "Jesus!" Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God claims victory over all evil and destruction in this world, even when it seems as though evil is winning. As an Easter people, we know the rest of the story.

As a reminder of that victory, we will share Holy Communion. We invite you to have some bread and grape juice available in front of you. After we consecrate the elements, we will all partake at one time, recognizing that Christ has made us one through the miracle of Easter. If you choose not to participate, you may enter into a time of silent prayer—sometimes called a "Eucharist fast"—to honor the remembrance of Jesus. Celebrate with us! The Lord is risen!

VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community.

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☞ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☞

Gathering Music

Fanfare for a Resurrection Day ... Steven Scott Doug Yetter, organ
Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain ... Sir Arthur Sullivan
The Day of Resurrection ... Berthold Tours

*Gospel Lesson

Mark 16:1-7

Todd

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.

And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.

They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.

He has been raised; he is not here.

Look, there is the place they laid him.

But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

Brother and Sisters,
This is the Word of God

§ Thanks be to God

***Song of Resurrection**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

UMH 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and haven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. 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!
3. 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!
4. 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!

Welcome

Todd

This Easter Celebration

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D

1. This Easter celebration is not like ones we've known.
We pray in isolation, we sing the hymns alone.
We're distant from our neighbors — from worship leaders, too.
No flowers grace the chancel to set a festive mood.
2. No gathered choirs are singing; no banners lead the way.
O God of love and promise, where's joy this Easter Day?
With sanctuaries empty, may homes become the place
we ponder resurrection and celebrate your grace.
5. We thank you that on Easter, your church is blessed to be
a scattered, faithful body that's doing ministry.
In homes and in the places of help and healing, too,
we live the Easter message by gladly serving you.

☞ WE ENGAGE THE WORD ☞

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

BECAUSE HE LIVES, AMEN

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One. I believe I overcome by the power of His blood.

Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives.

Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends, because He lives.

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame.

I heard mercy call my name. He rolled the stone away. *(Refrain)*

(Because He lives) I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, ev'ry fear is gone.

I know He holds my life, my future in His hands. *(Refrain)* TAG: Because He lives. ¹

Joys and Concerns & Morning Prayer

Todd

Invitation to Offering *Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.*

Todd

*Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038
and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish.
Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!*

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All. Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh. Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save
'Till on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt of life, no fear in death this is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
'til He returns or calls me home. Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand. ²

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

*The Great Thanksgiving Prayer

At the table, Easter people gather now, let voices ring.
Lift your hearts to God, Creator; Lift your hearts, and praises bring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Resurrection people, sing!

In the right time God sent Jesus, God-made-flesh, God face-to-face;
Showing us the ways of justice - Healing, preaching, teaching faith.
Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna! Jesus, Savior, Gift of Grace!

With disciples He shared supper - Cup of life and living bread
Symbols of His body, broken, signs of His redeeming love
We remember! We remember! Grace and mercy we are fed.

Pour on us your Holy Spirit, we, your people gathered here.
Take these gifts of bread and cup now, make them be as Christ for us.
We, your people, we, your people with the world Christ's body share!

Let us live as Easter people, bound no more by death and fear.
We are children of God's kingdom, God's redemption time is here.
Now we gather, now we gather, gather for this holy meal!

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

- § 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 after Communion (Vicki reads this prayer)

☞ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ☛

*Benediction

Vicki

* Hymn of Resurrection

Christ Is Risen

UMH 307

1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

Bulletins for the month of April are sponsored in memory of her husband, Ed Henriksen, by Barbara.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special **Peace Candle on the Chancel** shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Services at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recordings may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Assisting with Today's Service

Acolyte

Sound Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman, Sharon Wert, Tommy Vyas, Sofia Tamburello

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

¹ *Because He Lives, Amen:* William & Gloria Gaither, Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Maher & Jason Ingram ©2014 Hanna Street Music

² *In Christ Alone:* Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2001 Kingsway Thankyou Music.

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader:* Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Todd Shultz

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Accompanist:* Linda Jo Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries:* Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager:* Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Interim Administrative Assistant:* Barbara Kurtz ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee ... *ASL Interpreter:* Sandy Davis

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery:* Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent:* Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson...*Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



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a United Methodist Church
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Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary