

# Sunday Worship

April 26, 2020, 10 a.m.  
Cheltenham UMC

*“Questions of Faith:  
Is the Resurrection Real?”*

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## +GREETING

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared

**And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb.  
Hallelujah!**

That very day, two of the disciples were going to a village named Emmaus. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.

**And they recognized him in the breaking of the bread.**




# Hymn: *Christ Is Alive*

Words: Brian Wren, 1968, alt.  
Music: *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

UMH 318, Tune: TRURO

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Played by Chiara Griffith



+HYMN    “Christ Is Alive” UMH 318


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.






+HYMN “Christ Is Alive” UMH 318

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.




+HYMN    “Christ Is Alive” UMH 318

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



+HYMN    “Christ Is Alive” UMH 318

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



+HYMN “Christ Is Alive” UMH 318

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.



## OPENING PRAYER

**God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip us with everything good that we may do your will, working in us that which is pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**




CONGREGATIONAL  
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BIRTHDAYS



# The Birthday Song




A happy birthday to you, a happy birthday to you;  
May you feel Jesus near every day of the year.  
A happy birthday to you, a happy birthday to you;  
The best you have ever known!



## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We confess to you, all-knowing God, what we are. We are not the people we like others to think we are. We are afraid to admit, even to ourselves, what lies in the depths of our souls. But we cannot hide our true selves from you. You know us as we are, and yet you love us. Help us not to shrink from self-knowledge. Teach us to respect ourselves for your sake. Give us the courage to put our trust in your guiding power. Raise us out of the paralysis of guilt into the freedom and energy of forgiven people. And for those who through long habit find forgiveness hard to accept, we ask you to break their bondage and set them free; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**



+PASSING OF THE PEACE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER  
AND 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.



# Hymn: *Victory In Jesus*

Words: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939


Music: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

UMH 370, Tune: HARTFORD

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Played by Chiara Griffith





+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370


I heard an old, old story,  
how a Savior came from glory,  
how he gave his life on Calvary  
to save a wretch like me;  
I heard about his groaning,  
of his precious blood's atoning,  
then I repented of my sins  
and won the victory.



+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370


*Refrain:*

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me  
with his redeeming blod;  
he loved me ere I knew him,  
and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory  
beneath the cleansing flood.*



+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370


I heard about his healing,  
of his cleansing power revealing,  
how he made the lame to walk again  
and caused the blind to see;  
and then I cried, “Dear Jesus,  
come and heal my broken spirit,”  
and somehow Jesus came and brought  
to me the victory.



+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370

*Refrain:*


*O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me  
with his redeeming blod;  
he loved me ere I knew him,  
and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory  
beneath the cleansing flood.*



+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370

I heard about a mansion  
he has built for me in glory,  
and I heard about the streets of gold  
beyond the crystal sea;  
about the angels singing  
and the old redemption story,  
and some sweet day I'll sing up there  
the song of victory.





+HYMN “Victory In Jesus” UMH 370

*Refrain:*

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me  
with his redeeming blod;  
he loved me ere I knew him,  
and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory  
beneath the cleansing flood.*



## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them... “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

# +GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## Alleluia

1



Al - - le - - lu - - - ia! Al - - le - - - lu - - - ia!

Al - - le - - lu - - - ia! Al - - le - - - lu - - - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Alleluia. The first staff is in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 6/8 time. It contains two measures of music, each followed by the lyrics 'Al - - le - - lu - - - ia!'. The second staff is identical to the first. A red arrow points to the first staff from the left.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Tune: Celtic Alleluia  
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Played by Chiara Griffith



## GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:13–35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.



## GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:13–35

Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.





## GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:13–35

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.



# SERMON

“Is the Resurrection Real?”

Part 2 of the Eastertide Sermon Series  
“Questions of Faith”

Rev. Mark Schaefer



# OFFERTORY

*Chiara Griffith*  
Music Director

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# DOXOLOGY

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978

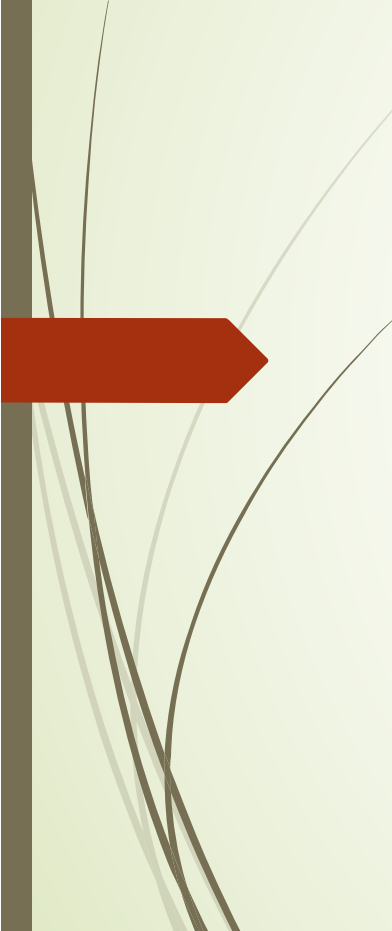
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

UMH 94, Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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Played by Chiara Griffith



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!



Hymn:

*We Know that Christ Is Raised*

Words: John Brownlow Geyer, 1969. Used by permission.  
Music: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904

UMH 610, Tune: ENGLEBERG

Played by Chiara Griffith



+HYMN “We Know That Christ Is Raised” UMH 610

We know that Christ  
is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.  
*Alleluia!*

We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life  
as living members of a living Christ.  
*Alleluia!*



+HYMN “We Know That Christ Is Raised” UMH 610

A new creation comes to life and grows  
as Christ’s new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe restored and whole will sing:  
*Alleluia!*



## +BENEDICTION

Thank you for joining us in worship!

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