



*Third Sunday of Easter*



May 1, 2022

Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor  
Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director

# Centering Thoughts

Souls reconstructed with faith transform agony into peace.

—Aberjhani

Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

—John 20:26 NRSV

Easter is always the answer to “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me!”

—Madeleine L’Engle

I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

—Thomas Merton

We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence.

—Pope Francis

## Welcome!

### Prelude

### Invitation to Worship

Terrie Sanderson

God of resurrection, you plant hope in tombs of despair and turn our sighs into songs of praise.

**As we praise you, may we welcome you.**

As we welcome you, may we be claimed by you.

**As we are claimed by you, may we be empowered to love others as you love us. Amen.**

**Hymn:** *Easter People, Raise Your Voices*

UMH #304

**Scripture:**

John 20:19-31

**Message:** “Fear Factor”

Pastor Lura

**Prayer**

Pastor Lura

## 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.**

**Hymn:** *It Is Well with My Soul*

UMH #377

## Prayer for Holy Communion

May the God of resurrection be with you!

**And also with you.**

The Spirit of the risen Christ comes to us through Holy Communion and nourishes our spirit.

**We open our hearts to the One who offers the gift of eternal life.**

Holy God, when Jesus could have clung to your glory, he chose to become human, so we might be filled with your grace. When we felt like outsiders, wondering if anyone noticed us, Jesus came to take us by the hand and bring us into the dance. When we are afraid, Jesus says, "Peace be with you." When our lives crumble around us and we lie scattered on the ground, Christ gathers us up, reshaping us into your beloved community. When we were unable to break the power of evil over us, Jesus allowed sin to toss him aside, until he was raised from the tomb because you refuse to let death be the end of the story. As we stand before the empty tomb, celebrating that Christ is alive, we would have that faith which is a mystery:

**Christ died, so sin could not hold on to us;**

**Christ was raised, so death could not hold on to him;**

**Christ will come, to hold us in steadfast love and hope.**

Pour out your Spirit upon your people and on the gifts of the feast of the resurrection. May the bread, which is broken open like the tomb, strengthen us so we may go to rebuild shattered hopes, to bind up the hurts of the world. May the cup which is filled with the fruits of your steadfast love, nourish us to leave the shadows of our fears and doubts, so that we stand with the lonely and forgotten and listen to the cries of the world.

**And in that time to come, when we will be gathered with our siblings of every place and time, we will sing your praises, God in Community, Holy in One, as you hold on to us forever.**

**Amen.**

**Song:** *Jesus, King of Angels*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter  
& Eric McKirdy

## Closing Blessing

Pastor Lura

Release your fears to God. The risen Christ stands with you and says, "Peace be with you." Receive the Holy Spirit and go into this week following Christ, the source of hope, peace and love.

## Postlude

## **Announcements:**

- ~ We celebrate that we can sing during in-person worship! (Please continue to wear a mask.)
- ~ The May issue of the church newsletter, the Tower Notes, is available in the narthex.
- ~ The United Methodist Women meet for a potluck on Wednesday, May 4, at noon. Their bake sale is next Sunday, May 8.
- ~ Pastor Lura will lead a class on the book *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*. Starting on June 12, we will meet every other Sunday after the worship service for a 90-minute class. Sign up in the narthex and pick up a book.
- ~ Help prepare sack lunches for those in need. On the second Sunday of each month, we meet in the church kitchen at 9 a.m. and put together sack lunches for Helping Hands to distribute. If you can be part of our sack lunch team, sign up in the narthex or contact Karla Long at 503-926-3347 or [karla.b.long@gmail.com](mailto:karla.b.long@gmail.com).

## **Contact Information:**

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**\*The office is temporarily closed, but phone messages  
and emails are checked regularly.\***