

**Easter Sunday  
April 9, 2023**

**8:30 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m.**

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**GATHERING**

*The people of God come together in the Lord's name*

**Prelude** - *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* - Diane Bish

**Call to Worship**

Do not be afraid; why do you seek the living among the dead?

**If you have carried him away, tell us where you have laid him.**

You are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is Risen.

**He is risen, indeed!**

**Opening Hymn No. 302\*\*** (vv 1-4) - *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

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!

**Invocation**

**God of life, through Jesus Christ you have bestowed upon the world the light of life. Sanctify this new fire, and grant that our hearts and minds may also be kindled with holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, that we may attain the feast of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages*

**Scripture Lesson**

Psalm 118:1-4 (Old Testament page 565/534)

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

his steadfast love endures for ever!

Let Israel say,  
‘His steadfast love endures for ever.’  
Let the house of Aaron say,  
‘His steadfast love endures for ever.’  
Let those who fear the LORD say,  
‘His steadfast love endures for ever.’

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gloria Patri*** (sung)

**Glorify 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.**

***Anthem***

9:00 - *On the Third Day* - Allen Pote

11:00 - *Coronation* - Craig Courtney

***God’s Word for Young Disciples***

***Scripture Lesson***

John 20:1-18 (New Testament page 114/108)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Sermon – The Way Out Of The Grave***

Rev. Jon Priebe

**RESPONSE**

*The people of God respond to the Word*

***Hymn of Response No. 303\*\* - The Day of Resurrection***

The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the passover of gladness,  
the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over,  
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,  
that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal  
of resurrection light;  
and listening to his accents,  
may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,  
may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful!  
Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph,  
and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen  
their notes in gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord hath risen,  
our joy that hath no end.

***Prayers of the People and 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.**

***Discipleship Moment***

***Offertory***

9:00 - *He Is Alive* - Buryl Red

11:00 - *All Things New* - Craig Courtney

***Doxology***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith*

***Hymn No. 327\*\* - Crown Him with Many Crowns***

Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne,  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,  
who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife  
for those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing,  
who died, and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end,  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
those wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise and glory shall not fail  
throughout eternity.

***Benediction and Response*** (Hymn No. 322)

**Up from the grave he arose; with a mighty triumph o'er his foes; he arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever, with his saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

***Postlude*** - *Symphony 5: Toccata* - Charles-Marie Widor



**Service Music** 9:00 Epworth Choir; 11:00 Chancel Choir; Tommy Farmer, french horn

## **CHURCH NOTES**

**Welcome to First Church:** Please feel free to join us on regular Sunday mornings for services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation classes take place at 9:45 a.m. We'd love to see you there!

**Stations of the Cross:** The Confirmation classes prepared a Stations of the Cross prayer journey as a thank you to the First Church congregation for your support. There are fifteen stations which will be up through April 16. One - eight are in Confirmation 1 (Rm. 112 - across from the youth lounge) and nine - fifteen are in the Confirmation 2 room (Rm. 104 the corner room where the 2 hallways meet).

**Need Youth Names:** If you have a student who will be entering 7th grade in the fall and would like to receive information on Epworth Choir and YF, please send an email to [epworthyouth2@gmail.com](mailto:epworthyouth2@gmail.com). There will be an opportunity for your youth to come to Youth Group on Sunday, May 2, to see what it's all about! We would also like to have the names of all graduating seniors so that they can be recognized at the church service on Sunday, May 21, Senior Sunday. Please send it to Jen McKenna at [epworthyouth2@gmail.com](mailto:epworthyouth2@gmail.com) or call the church office.

**Interested in joining First Church?** We will hold a Discovery Class to learn more about the Methodist Church in general and specifically First Church for anyone interested in beginning the

membership journey. The classes will be held in the Parlor at 9:45 on Sundays, April 23 and 30 and May 2.

**Classes to Start Next Sunday:** We are starting the two courses that are on our pathway to membership on Sunday, April 16 which will run for 6 weeks. You may register for them at the Welcome Center or on the pew pads.

*Ministry By Strengths* will be held Sundays at 9:45 am. The only cost is \$20 for the Clifton Strengths assessment which we will use during the class.

*Disciple Like Jesus* will be on Sundays from 4 pm to 5:15 pm. There is no cost unless you want a hard copy of the book. You will receive a digital version.

**Nursery Help:** We are in need of helpers in the nursery on Sunday mornings beginning immediately. If you are interested, please contact Donna Curfman at Ext. 219 or [dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com](mailto:dcurfmanfallsumc@gmail.com).

**Rejoicing Spirits Worship and Reunion:** Saturday, April 15 at 5:30 p.m. in Asbury Hall. Come share God's love and celebrate Christ's Resurrection!

**UMW/UWF Accessory Sale Donations:** We are asking for donations of gently-used jewelry and purses for the Accessory Sale which will take place on Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Wesley Hall. The deadline for donations is May 7. All money raised goes to missions. Donations may be dropped off in the church office. If you have any questions, contact Sue Boltz at 330-928-8635.

**Montgomery Scholarship:** It is hard to believe, but the school year is quickly winding down, and this means it is time for interested graduating seniors to apply for the Reid and Roberta Montgomery Scholarship. Applications may be picked up in the church office beginning Monday, April 3, and the deadline to submit applications will be Sunday, April 30. Applicants must be a member of First Church, a graduating senior, and planning to enroll in college or a technical school for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Craig Courtney Concert:** On Sunday, April 23 at 3 pm, we are honored to welcome composer Craig Courtney to our church to direct a concert of his own music with the Chancel and Epworth Choirs. Mr. Courtney is internationally known for his compositions and many of them are your favorites, and you may not have ever put his name together with those pieces of music. This is a perfect time to invite someone to church for a concert that will be about an hour in length.

**Vacation Bible School:** Registration has begun for *The Hero Hotline* which runs from June 19 - 23. Programs for children aged 3 (by September) through 4th grade are from 9 a.m. to noon. Children in 5th and 6th grades will participate in a program of mission projects and field trips. VBS Extreme is an afternoon extension program with activities and field trips for those entering 1st through 6th grades. There are limited openings for each program so register early. Registration deadline is May 26.

**Shoeboxes For Christmas:** In an effort to 100 shoeboxes this Christmas, we are asking for different donations each month. During April we would like to collect washcloths, jump ropes,

and costume jewelry for kids. If you have questions, please contact Linda Demeter at 740-334-9290.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –  
PRAYER BULLETIN  
APRIL 9, 2023**



**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

Kathy & Scott Adie Bob Ahonen Debbie Amundsen Shirley Asher Mary Ellen Atwood Jim Bailey Behrman family Mark & Cindy Blaser Marge Blocksom	Robert Boyd Larry Brimlow Don Corbett Susan DeLong Jim Evans Jean Finnegan Rose Gregory Mary Griest Joyce Haberkost	Jim Henes Phil Hennen Marcia Liikala Pat Park Kathi Sawyer Cynthia Schrier Christina Shaw Ken Tunstall
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**DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:**

Family of member Neil Lindsley on his death on 4/3.

Carol Lewis and family on the death of her husband member, Gerald Lewis on 3/30.

Marge Blocksom and family on the death of her husband member, William Blocksom on 3/16.