



First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We're glad that you are here.
To all who need comfort; all who need friendship;
all who are lonely and need companionship;
all who want sheltering love, all who sin
and need a Savior; and whosoever will
—we open wide our doors and say, “Come; let us worship together.”

Easter Sunrise Service

April 20, 2025

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE GREETINGS AND WELCOME

Pastor Fernando

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Easter Proclamation

Dear friends and beloved in Christ: On this most holy morning, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her faithful, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in praise and prayer, worship and celebration and by hearing God's Word and celebrating his resurrection, we share in Christ's victory over death.

Let us pray.

All: God, just as you raised Jesus from the dead, you offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ. We rejoice and give thanks for this good news, which has been handed down to us from generation to generation. May we be witnesses of Jesus' suffering and death, and how he meets us in the broken places of our lives. Most of all, we may be witnesses of the resurrection, sharing your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people. This is your doing, O God. It is marvelous in our eyes. Amen.

Call and Response

L: Behold the Light of Christ! Christ the Light of the world! Christ is risen! Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.

P: Glory to you, O Christ, and thanks to you, O God.

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

L: We know the message that God sends to all people.

P: God's peace, preached by Jesus Christ, is available to all through the Lord of life.

L: The one who lived among us,

P: Doing good and healing all,

L: was crucified, died, and buried.

P: But God raised him on the third day.

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

Hymn #304 “Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

1. Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring. Christ has brought us heaven's choices; heavenly music, let it ring. Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below. For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe. Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

3. Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song. When in trouble move the faster o our God who rights the wrong. Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.

GOSPEL Luke24:1-12

Lexi Piercy

Women proclaim the resurrection

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen clothes by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

L: The Word of God for the People of God

P: Thanks be to God

HYMN #314 “In the Garden”

1. I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses, and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

[Refrain] And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
And he tells me I am his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing, and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]

3. I'd stay in the garden with him though the night around me be falling, but he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling. [Refrain]

Easter Devotion “No More Fear”

Pastor Fernando

Holy Communion Invitation & Confession The Peace

The Great Thanksgiving The Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of us all,

We give you thanks for your love, your grace, and your power on this blessed Resurrection morning!

P: We thank you for the many friends and loved ones who have made the extra effort to gather here with us today.

We thank you for the brilliance of the colors on us and around us that remind us of new life!

P: Today, blessed God, we gather to remember and celebrate:
We remember Jesus, who healed the sick and raised the dead.

P: *We remember Jesus*, who gathered children to himself and dealt kindly with women centuries before our efforts at women's liberation.

We remember Jesus, who always kept the mission in the forefront, and the minutia in the lowest seat.

P: *We remember Jesus*, Son of God, Song of God, who sang God's melody to us.

We remember Jesus, who consented to suffer and die at our hands.

P: Today, Almighty God, *we celebrate* the fact that death could not hold Jesus in the grave!

We celebrate that not even death is able to separate us from the love of God!

P: *We celebrate* the new life that we have in Christ!

We celebrate the assurance that we have of eternal life!

Today we celebrate and give thanks that in life, in death, in life after death we belong to God! **Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Offering Ourselves

***Doxology #95**

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.

***Offertory Prayer**

Glorious God, we rejoice in Jesus' victory over death! You raised him up to live forever. He left behind his linen wrappings-- the shroud, his grave clothes. Robed in white, Christ leads us from darkness to light. Help us to follow him, leaving behind the things of our past that obscure our horizons. We dedicate these offerings as tokens of the breaking dawn of Christ. May our gratitude shine forth by joyfully giving of our earthly goods. Amen. (John 20:1-18)

***Hymn #310 "He Lives"**

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.

[Refrain] He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair. I know

that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last. [Refrain]

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind. [Refrain]

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

***GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

As we enter the silence of the tomb, let us pray together.

**Easter Breakfast will follow in the fellowship hall!
Freewill offering will be taken.**



First United Methodist Church Easter Sunrise Service April 20, 2025 @ 7:30 am

Vision Statement

**“Our faith calls us to action in the
body of Christ and in the local
community to love God and to
love others”**

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