



**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."

10:15am Easter Sunday Worship March 31, 2024

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLE Asia LaShelle

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEART Vivian Eaton

\*EXCLAIM WITH DELIGHT

\*PROCESSIONAL SONG "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" (TFWS #2026)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EASTER WORD FROM THE CROSS Matthew 28:5-7a  
"The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead,'"

On this glorious day of Easter Sunday, all the symbols of pain and suffering are removed from the cross. In their place are the symbols of hope and love and new life. The flower has come alive from the bulb ... just as we have come alive with life and new hope from our sorrow.

**Prayer: Dear Lord, help us to realize that the powerful words - HE IS RISEN - is not the end of the story, but it is the beginning of a newness in our life; and we are grateful that you are ever present with us. Amen**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Susan Michelle Jepsen

L: The tomb is dark, but empty

**P: The one you are looking for has overcome the darkness**

L: The stone has been rolled away

**P: The one you are looking for has overcome death**

L: The burial clothes are put aside

**P: The one you are looking for is alive!**

L: Christ is Risen!

**P: Christ is Risen Indeed!**

**All: Let us worship our Risen Savior!**

\*SONG "Let the River Flow" from Worship DVD

PRAYER OF CELEBRATION Susan Michelle Jepsen

**God of us all, we give you thanks for your love, your grace, and your power on this blessed Resurrection morning! 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! 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.**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED #881 Susan Michelle Jepsen

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

EASTER SPECIAL MUSIC

Piano Solo: Annika Law

"This Little Light of Mine"

Piano Solo: Ryker McCombie

"Hallelujah, Praise the Lord"

"There is Power in the Blood"

Sunday School & Congregation

"Jesus Loves Me"

SCRIPTURE Acts 10:34-43 (CEB) Susan Michelle Jepsen

\*GOSPEL John 20:11-18 (CEB) Pastor Dave Yim

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**A: Thanks be to God!**

CHOIR "We Will Glorify the King of Kings"

MESSAGE: "Real Love"

Pastor Dave Yim

SHARING OF JOY AND CONCERNS (Text Pastor@ 224-600-0446)

PRAYER FOR PEOPLE

**HOLY COMMUNION**

INVITATION & CONFESSION

THE PEACE

OFFERING OURSELVES

\*DOXOLOGY #95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (In Unison)

**God of the victory of life over death; on this glorious Easter Sunday, we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. Just as the women encountered the empty tomb and the angelic message of new life, we too encounter the living Christ in our hearts and lives. As we come to present our tithes and offerings, may they be an affirmation of our search for the risen Christ, the one who challenges us to see beyond our own expectations. Bless our giving and help us discover the transformative power of the living Jesus in our lives. In the holy name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMN #322 "Up from the Grave He Arose"

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD

Vivian Eaton

**In Our Prayers**

Emilee Derrer, Rhonda Harlock Smith, Gi-Tae Yim, Sandy Froehlich, Barb McFadden, Glen White, Pastor Bill Landis, Shirley Hastings, Alice Riffe-Torrison (Ronda's mom), Dale Wurster, Owen Davies (Bonnie's son), Curtis Pilgrim (Kris Yingling's friend), Steve Runge (Ronda's friend), Connie Zink, Pastor Lee (Pastor Dave's friend), Don & Judy Greenfield, Sandy Pratt, Shirley

Fritz, Lexi Tsoukalas (Molly's great niece), Debbie Bilik (Janet Morlock's friend), Tim Cavanagh, Louise Brouillard (Ronda's friend), Scarlett Huebner, Chrissy Sullivan, Miles Purchis (Max & Martha Purchis' grandson), John & Linda Jachino, Paul Mayer, Angie (Paula's friend), Roger Furrow, Kurtis (Susan Michelle's friend), Eli (Bob & Lavona's grandson), Paula Mayer, Young-Ho Yim (Bang-Wool's father), Tinslee, Chris Falk's father, Jeff (Backwater Gambler dad), Ed & Barb Jepsen, Beth (LaVona's co-worker), Mary (Belander) Klein, Howard Nichols, Jackie Walker, Bob & Holly Franklin, Bud Atherton, the family of Sharon Atherton, our Confirmands (Jon, Aidan, Jiho, Asia, Caleb, and Lexi), and WC staff & students.

**Our shut-ins:** Sylvia Reuterfors, Dorothy Taylor, Erik & Alice Riffe-Torrison, Joy Turner, Steve Yenney, Brenda Hamm, Janice Wilt, Mary Ellen Dreger, Herb, Sandy & Ben Pratt, Florence Bevins-Powell, and Shirley Fritz.

Our country & government, Military Personnel & their families, the safety of Ukrainians & end of wars, Syria, Israel, the Gaza Strip, peace in the Middle East, the victims of everyday violence and their families, those affected by the bridge collapse in Baltimore, and the families of the victims of the Rockford violence.

#### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April 1 – Katie Hoffman, Sarah Murphy  
 1 – Paul & Charlene Mayer (1964)  
 2 – April Ruddell  
 5 – Kris Offenheiser  
 6 – Melinda Dykema, JC Carey

#### CALENDAR

Monday, April 1  
 Pastor out of the office  
 1 to 3 pm – Sewing Ladies  
 3:30 to 5 pm – West Carroll Food Pantry

Tuesday, April 2  
 6:30 pm – United Women in Faith mtg @ FUMC

Wednesday, April 3  
**Office Closed**

Thursday, April 4  
**Office Closed**  
 9 am – Bible Study  
 7 pm – Zoom Prayer meeting

Friday, April 5  
**Office Closed**

Sunday, April 7  
 8:45 am – Adult Sunday School  
 9:30 am – Children & Youth Sunday School  
 10:15 am – Worship  
 3:30 to 5 pm – Confirmation Class  
 5 to 7 pm – Youth Group

#### WORSHIP HELPERS

	April 7	April 14
Acolyte	Blaine Johnson	Jiwon Yim
Liturgist	Molly Andersen	Susan Shellhorn
Counter	Molly Andersen	Rhonda Law
Verifier	Pam Darrow	Linda Jachino
Coffee Hour	Mayer family	Tom Neumiller

Last Week's Attendance: 72

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WC Food Pantry** – is needing soup (tomato, chicken noodle, cream of mushroom/chicken), cereal, mac & cheese, Chef Boyardee ravioli/spaghettios, pasta sauce, ketchup, and crackers. Please!

**Blessing Basket** – We are in need of laundry soap, and paper towels. We always need paper products. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**The Women's Group** is asking you to bring clean and dry plastic bags. The group will make sleeping mats out of them for homeless people. You can drop them off in a box in the sewing room at church.

**Weekly Zoom Prayer Meetings** –will be every Thursday, @ 7 pm. Pastor Dave will email you a link each week.

**Rice Meal Packing** – will be April 20<sup>th</sup>! Sign up sheet is available! Baskets will be out for raising funds. Once again, 4 churches will go together to do this mission project.

**Pictures for Church Directory** – Please see Ronda to set up a time.

**Today's Communion Giving** – will go to support the Sewing Ladies.

**Youth Group** – meeting Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> @ 5 pm to 7 pm

**United Women in Faith** – meeting on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Finance/Growth** – meeting Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5 pm

**JOY Ministry** – meeting Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

**Office will be Closed April 3-7<sup>th</sup>** - Ronda is going to National PAUMCS Conference in Memphis, TN.

**Please make sure the doors are closed & locked** – when you come to the building after hours!

**Nursery Room Usage** – per NIC Safe Sanctuary policies, no child/children are to be in there without a parent or certified adult (18 or older) present. Please clean up when finished.

**New Sewing Ministry** – We invite all sewers to get involved in our sewing ministry buy getting a kit in the sewing room. Several are available. (Pattern & material) Check out this ministry in the sewing room after church or ask any member of United Women in Faith. This gives those who cannot come Monday afternoons to sew a chance to be part of this important ministry by sewing at home at your convenience. Check this out!!!



# First United Methodist Church

## Sunday, 10:15 am

## March 31, 2024

### 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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