

**April 9, 2023
Easter Sunday**

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are gathered in the presence of the risen Christ, who remains with us forever.

People: **When we abide in the love of Christ, love, joy, and peace grow.**

Leader: We are rooted in Christ's love that we may bear these fruits together with all God's people.

ALL: **With the faithful of every race, tribe, people, and nation we sing:
Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, and might. Amen.**

***Invocation**

**Holy God, the earth is full of your glory,
and so we worship you.**

**Our hearts are on fire with the awareness
that Christ is with us,
and so we thank you.**

**Our fears have been calmed
in the bright light of Resurrection Day,
and so we praise you.**

Do not leave us, we pray.

**Let us abide forever in the assurance of your love;
through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Hymn #233: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"**

***Passing of the Peace**

Scripture Reading:

John 20:1-18

Louise Piper

Anthem

Time With Young Disciples

***Unison Prayer**

God of all ages and of all people, the shadows and gloom of Good Friday have been dispersed by the light and color of Easter Sunday. We rejoice in your power that turns sorrow into joy, our despair into hope, our defeat into victory, and evil into goodness. Help us on this Easter morning, O God, to burst out of the tombs

that have trapped us: tombs of selfishness and sinfulness, greed and gluttony, scandal and corruption, pride and prejudice. Let now a new life of divine grace and human love burst forth from each of us this Easter day, through the grace of Jesus Christ, the Risen One. Amen.

Sermon: "In the Garden"

***Hymn #237:** "I Come to the Garden Alone"

The Community at Prayer (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

Prayer Response

Anthem

Invitation to the Offering

Since our cups run over with gifts of grace, let us respond with our love and ourselves and our gifts.

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Wonderful, amazing, God, we thank you that you have raised Jesus the Christ from the dead, bringing us the promise of new life. With the dawning of this new day, may we awake to new opportunities to love and serve you and witness to Christ whom you have raised. Use us, and our gifts, to your glory. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #245:** "The Day of Resurrection"

***Commissioning and Blessing**

***Choral Response**

***Postlude**