



Centenary  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**April 24, 2022**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

*(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)*

**The Prelude**

*Now the Green Blade Riseth*

Traditional French Carol

**The Call to Worship**

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: Praise God in the sanctuary.**

Leader: Praise God in the vault of heaven.

**People: Praise God in the earth and skies.**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord.

**People: Shout and sing praises to God.**

Leader: We have witnessed God's mighty acts.

**People: We have seen the Lord's greatness.**

Leader: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

**People: Let everything that draws breath praise the Lord!**

**The Hymn No. 315**

*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

ST. KEVIN

1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought forth Israel  
into joy from sadness;  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters,  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

2. 'Tis the spring of souls today;  
Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun hath risen;  
all the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from his light, to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

3. Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts,  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection.

4. Neither might the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold thee as a mortal;  
but today amidst the twelve  
thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore  
passeth human knowing.

5. "Alleluia!" now we cry  
to our King immortal,  
who, triumphant, burst the bars  
of the tomb's dark portal;  
"Alleluia!" with the Son,  
God the Father praising,  
"Alleluia!" yet again  
to the Spirit raising.

### **The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **We hear your calling, Lord; how can we keep from singing?  
How can we keep our lips from proclaiming the good news,  
that Jesus Christ is risen, bringing healing and forgiveness to all?  
From the life in his blood he has freed us, making us a royal priesthood.  
Whether we have seen or believe without seeing,  
we have found life in his name.  
In Christ's name, we give thanks and praise. Amen!**

### **The Scripture Lesson**

Acts 5:27-32

### **The Sermon**

*Easter Changes Everything – Even People Like Us*

Dr. Matthew Bates

### **The Offertory Prayer**

#### **The Offertory Solo**

*I Know that My Redeemer Liveth*  
Emily Downey, soprano

G. F. Handel

I know that my redeemer liveth,  
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

Job 19:25

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### **The Prayers of the People**

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

### **The Lord's Prayer No. 895**

**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 that 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.**

**The Hymn No. 2115**

*Christ Has Risen*

HOLY MANNA

1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers,  
Christ has risen where hope died,  
as he said and as he promised,  
as we doubted and denied.  
Let the moon embrace the blessing;  
let the sun sustain the cheer;  
let the world confirm the rumor.  
Christ is risen, God is here!
2. Christ has risen for the people  
whom he loved and died to save;  
Christ has risen for the women  
bringing flowers to grace his grave.  
Christ has risen for disciples  
huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation  
is not silenced by the tomb.
3. Christ has risen to companion  
former friends who fear the night,  
sensing loss and limitation  
where their faith had once burned bright.  
They bemoan what is no longer,  
they expect no hopeful sign  
till Christ ends their conversation,  
breaking bread and sharing wine.
4. Christ has risen and forever  
lives to challenge and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled,  
all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen. Christ is present  
making us what he has been –  
evidence of transformation  
in which God is known and seen.

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## The Benediction

## The Postlude

*Christ Has Risen*

Traditional

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*The altar flowers this morning are given by Suzanne Ray in honor of Florence Clay Bishop, for her faithful service throughout the pandemic.*

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning and throughout the week to make this worship possible.*

## Scriptures

### Acts 5:27-32

<sup>27</sup> When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”