ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EASTER SUNDAY

10 a.m. March 31, 2024

PRELUDE Sound the Trumpet

by Henry Purcell/arr. Michel Rondeau

INTROIT Crown Him Lord of All! CUMC Adult Choir

by Marty Parks

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

EASTER GREETINGS

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Death has been swallowed in victory.

All: The grave has lost its sting.

One: Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed!

All: And we are alive in Christ! Glory to God! Alleluia!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of the Lord be with you

All: And also with you

One: Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

*HYMN Christ the Lord is Risen Today UMH #302

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This very day, God has acted.

All: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

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

All: God's peace, preached by Jesus Christ, is available to all through

the Lord of life.

One: The one who lived among us,

All: doing good and healing all,

One: was crucified, dead and buried.

All: But God raised him on the third day.

One: This very day, God has acted.

All: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

OPENING PRAYER

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, too, be witnesses of Jesus, who you anointed with the Holy Spirit to bring blessings of mercy and healing. May we be witnesses of Jesus' suffering and death, and how he meets us in the broken places of our lives. Most of all, may we 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.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES "Children's Message" Virginia Lorenzi

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF YEARNING

Risen Jesus, how we long to proclaim the good news we have received—you are risen, the tomb is empty, and you are present with your friends. Remind us not to look for you in the places where we lost you— our grief, our failure, the death all around us. For you have been raised. You are not trapped in some tomb. Help us proclaim your resurrection with confidence this day. Flawed as we are, help us perceive how deeply we are loved, for your grace and mercy never fail. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Beloved of God, the grace of God is with you, and God's grace has not been in vain. Receive forgiveness and mercy through the name of Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Acts 10:34-43

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

THE GOSPEL READING Mark 16:1-8

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Joy of Easter" Rev. Sue H. Yun

THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (in unison)

Friends, God has opened the gates of righteousness. Let us accept God's invitation and offer gifts of thanksgiving in Christ's name.

^{*} indicates "stand if you are able." UMH is the blue hymnal. TFWS is the small black book.

WEEKLY OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Is He Worthy?

CUMC Adult Choir

by Andrew Peterson & Ben Shive / arr. Heather Sorenson

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, thank you for your goodness and mercy, especially for the good news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. May these offerings, and indeed our very lives, become a witness to all people of the salvation and grace, you bring into the world. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER FOR PEACE

God of peace and justice, you have taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Today we raise Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Russia, and all parts of the world where people are suffering from war. Provide protection and comfort to the innocent who have been impacted. Transform the hearts and minds of all those who perpetuate violence and oppression. Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward world peace; may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference. Stop the wars o, God. Amen.

*HYMN Because He Lives **UMH #364**

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One: Easter people of Jesus Christ, this very day, God has acted. All: Jesus is raised from the dead. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Lead On, O King Eternal POSTLUDE

arr. by Catherine McMichael

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

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