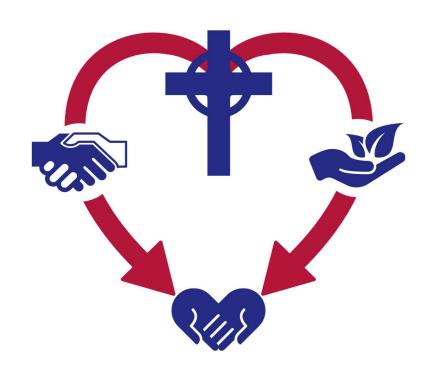
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Resurrection Sunday Sacrament of Communion April 20, 2025

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well.



We Gather to Worship God

*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "The Only Lamb" Chancel Choir

words by Eileen Berry, music by Molly Ijames

Call to Worship (from "Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" Hymn 248)

Leader: Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

People: Hosanna! Hosanna!

Leader: Celebrate this day of days!

People: Hosanna! Hosanna!

Leader: Let all creation be amazed!

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Christ is Risen!

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #248

"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" (front cover of hymnal)

Words/Music by Kenneth Jones

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Living God, in the resurrection of Jesus you vindicated his sinless life, boldly proclaiming that even the powers of sin and death are not more powerful than your righteousness. You have made him the first-fruits of your ongoing resurrection, calling us all from death to life. Help us to turn from the sin and death at work in our mortal bodies, and to live into the life eternal and abundant that you offer. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: 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?

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen, amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(*remain standing)

*Transition Hymn #59

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources (see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

*Doxology (#606)

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.

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Time for Young Disciples

(Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church and Bible Builds)

Special Music "Easter Alleluia!" Chancel Choir

John Purifoy

Scripture Reading Luke 24:1-12

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word Rev. AJ Ochart

"Impossible Tales"

Responding to God's Word

*Affirmation of Our Faith (from The Confession of 1967)

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful [people]. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment under which all [] stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.

The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all []. God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for man. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation for Communion #510

"We Gather Here in Jesus Name"

Sacrament of Holy Communion (see liturgy on laminated card in pew rack)

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #246 (v.1)

"Christ Is Alive!"

*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u>: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Barbara Balentine in memory of Edith and Clyde Clark.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. AJ Ochart, Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Jennifer Massey, Lay Leader

