

First Church at Worship

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY *Festive Trumpet Tune* David German

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* THE EASTER GREETING

ALLELUIA! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

Glory and honor, dominion and power, be to God for ever and ever.

Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 307

W Zlobie Lezy

Christ Is Risen

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days. Christ is risen!

Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning.

See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;

Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus:

"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us.

Sing Hosanna everyone!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

~ WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD ~

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

This is the word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALTER

Psalm 133

St. Thomas

**When brethren live in peace,
At peace in unity,
Behold how good a thing it is,
A pleasant thing to see.**

**It is like fragrant oil
Which glistens and runs down
On head and beard, on Aaron's beard
And collar of his gown.**

**It is like Hermons' dew
That falls on Zion's hill,
For there the Lord has promised life
And gives his blessing still.**

THE SECOND LESSON

I John 1:1-2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Gordon Young

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

* THE GOSPEL RESPONSE No. 2043

Alleluia (2x)

Celtic Alleluia

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Mr. Josh

SERMON

Rev. Kyle Randle

~ WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL ~

THANKSGIVING FOR OUR BAPTISM

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,

for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

like rains to our thirsting earth,

like streams that revive our souls,

like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God,

now and forever.

Amen.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

No. 881

**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.**

* THE GLORIA PATRI No. 70

Meineke

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

~ THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION ~

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your own image and breathed into us the breath of life,
offering this world to be our dwelling place.
You filled it to overflowing with all good things and made us your stewards

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
who came to be light to all peoples.
He leads us out of the darkness of sin and death.
His own blood cleanses us from our sins.
He is our advocate with you.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

"When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

All are invited to the Lord's Table. Please follow the direction of the ushers.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

* HYMN OF SENDING No. 2296 *We Walk by Faith* vs. 1-3

Martyrdom

We walk by faith, and not by sight;
with gracious words we hear
of him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,
nor follow where he trod;
yet in his promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,
and may our faith abound;
to call on you when you are near,
and seek where you are found.

* BENEDICTION

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fanfare

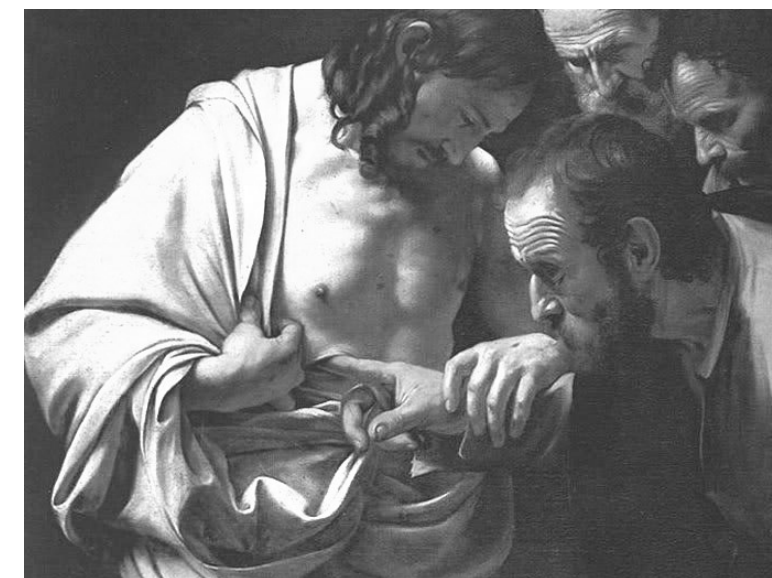
Jacques Lemmens

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in honor of our grandchildren,
by Ernie and Peggy Turnes

First United Methodist Church

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Caravaggio, Michelangelo Merisi da, 1573-1610 / Greyscale

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

† † †

Welcome to First United Methodist Church

Out of a broken and sinful world, all people are welcomed into the body of Jesus Christ at First Church. As children of God, together we join in worship to experience the transforming love of our Savior.

We are here this morning to worship God. Through our songs, words of praise, prayers and scripture reading, we give honor and glory to God. Wondrous things happen as we worship. Lives are changed. The presence of God brings hope, comfort, healing, and joy. Let us worship in gladness. Jesus, the Lord of Life is with us.