

Sebastopol United Methodist Church
Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:30 a.m. Zoom Worship Service
Easter Sunday Communion
Order of Worship

Seasonal Theme

Alive and out of the grave, the Risen Christ is witnessed in the real world.

Theme for the day

Jesus out of the grave and within us and the church alive.

Prelude

Jim Johnson

Lighting the Candle of the Day

Gabriella Rodriguez

A new day. A new light symbolizes Jesus, the Risen Lord, in our presence.

Welcome/Greetings

Carol Wegner

(please use the Zoom chat feature to write your joys and concerns)

Opening Hymn

Jim Johnson

UMH 302 (verses 1, 2, and 6)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Call to worship

Moses Ost

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

All: **Because he is good, because his faithful love lasts forever.**

Leader: *(reads verses 14-23)*

Unison: **This is the day the Lord acted; we will rejoice and celebrate in it. Amen.**

Special Music I

India Wade and Michael Ost

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

The Apostles' Creed, Ecumenical Version (UMH 882)

(please read with Pastor, aloud or silently as you prefer)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

Jim Johnson

UMH 310 (verses 1 and 3)

He Lives

Centering and Prayer of illumination

Kaci Wegner

(we read together, aloud or silently as you prefer)

Holy One, you come to us with power beyond all knowing. You lift all things out of the dust, you breathe love into every cell, you call us into communion with you, and you claim victory over death. Open our eyes and soften our hearts, O God, through the work of your Holy Spirit, that in the hearing of your Word we may receive new life. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Special Music II

Rob Wegner

Readings from Sacred Scripture

Mark 16:1-11

John Magnoli

Acts 10:34-43

Kaci Wegner

Message

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

HE IS RISEN – ARE YOU THERE YET?

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

Sacrament of the Holy Communion

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

*In peace and love, in gratitude and faith, I invite you to have your bread
(or chips, crackers, etc.) and juice (or water, wine, etc.) ready.*

Let us come together to Christ's table.

*(we read together the texts in **BOLD**)*

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 thanks and praise.

O God, you are the creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image, to love and to be loved. You made a holy covenant with us and sent prophets to teach us your truth. When we turned away and were unfaithful, you kept faith with us.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we join in your praise, saying,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Taking our form and flesh, Jesus came among us as a servant. He showed us the depth and power of your love. By his suffering, death, and resurrection you delivered us from sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread. He 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."

Remembering your gracious acts, we offer ourselves to you in service and praise as we keep the feast that Christ prepares:

[lifting the bread] Bread of Heaven,

[lifting the cup] Cup of Salvation,

[lifting bread and cup] Resurrection and Life.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit among us: in this bread, in this cup, in your people; one in the body, one in the blood, one with Christ, one in mission, one in ministry; in this place, in every place, in this world, and in the world to come. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. [Lord's Prayer]

Amen.

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Receiving

O God, we give you our thanks and praise. You feed us by your grace. You are with us in all our journeys. Give us courage and faith to serve you in all we do. Fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit. Enable us to be faithful and fruitful servants of the gospel and ministry to which you have called us. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

(we read together, aloud or silently as you prefer)

Holy God, you shower us with gifts so abundant, we cannot measure them all. You give us life itself and the power to befriend our companions in this world.

Bless these gifts for the sake of those in need, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, One God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn

Jim Johnson

UMH 155 (verses 1, 3, and 6)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Blessing and Benediction

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

Go from here, renewed and strong, knowing that the Lord is alive, almighty and present. Look for the blessings that await you this week. Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who celebrate. Tell the story of hope to all people.

Postlude

Jim Johnson

Hallelujah!

from *Messiah* by G.F. Handel

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Thank you for worshipping with us today.

CHRIST IS RISEN! HALLELUIA!