

The Mount Carmel Congregational Church

A United Church of Christ



Resurrection, Marko Rupnik c. 2006

**Easter Sunday
March 31st, 2024**

Prelude

“The Strife is O'er”

Bell Choir

Arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

Greeting and Announcements

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Let us give thanks to our God whose unfailing love lasts forever.

All: Let us give thanks for the Risen Christ whose love is stronger than death.

One: We gather together in the dawn of a new day.

**All: The stone has been rolled away. The tomb is empty.
Alleluia!**

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***Hymn**

“The Strife is O'er”

NCH #242

The Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(In Unison)

Loving God, we trust that there is nothing you cannot overcome, even though we let ourselves feel trapped. We confess our profound need of your love, strength, and mercy. Too often, we come toward the tomb resigned to the status quo. We anticipate the worst, even when you are the giver of every good thing. We allow despair over the condition of our world overwhelm us when you call us to follow you and to trust that we can change our world. Embolden us to live empowered by your love. Transform us and breathe new life into us. Amen.

Words of Assurance

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Rick Terry

Brothers and sisters, I want to call your attention to the good news that I preached to you, which you also received and in which you stand. You are being saved through it if you hold on to the message I preached to you, unless somehow you believed it for nothing. I passed on to you as most important what I also received: Christ died for our sins in line with the scriptures, he was buried, and he rose on the third day in line with the scriptures. He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve, and then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at once—most of them are still alive to this day, though some have died.

Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me, as if I were born at the wrong time. I'm the least important of the apostles. I don't deserve to be called an apostle, because I harassed God's church. I am what I am by God's grace, and God's grace hasn't been for nothing. In fact, I have worked harder than all the others—that is, it wasn't me but the grace of God that is with me. So then, whether you heard the message from me or them, this is what we preach and this is what you have believed.

***Hymn** "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" [Page 5]

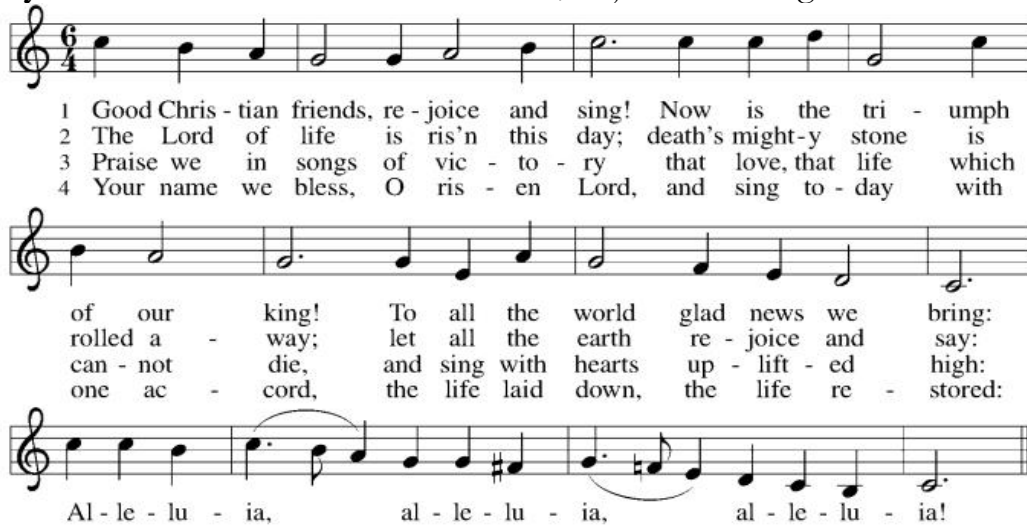
Second Reading: Mark 16: 1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled.

But he said to them, “Don’t be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn’t here. Look, here’s the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you.” Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Sermon

Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Joys and Concerns of the Parish Family

Please remember the following persons in your prayers: Carol Fitzsimons; Bart March; Marilynn Bronson; Karl Paulette; Amos Hewitt; Rhonda Pruzinsky; and Gilbert Spencer.

Moments of Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names. 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.

Call to Offering

Offertory “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” Bell Choir
Arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

***The Doxology**

(In Unison)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit—One. Amen.***

***Prayer of Dedication**

(In Unison)

God of all, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. With these offerings, we give ourselves; may we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen.

***Hymn** “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” NCH #233

Benediction

Postlude “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” Bell Choir
Arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

xx

*Hymn

“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear.



Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
You look for Je - sus who is not here.



For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go,
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
and in its con - quest his might did show.
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there.”

Refrain



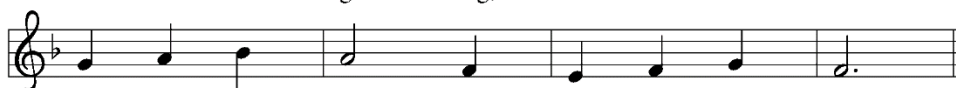
Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

4 “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won.”

Refrain

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our 2024 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 28th, 2024, following service. Copies of the Annual Report will be made available for review on Sunday, April 21st.

Please join us on Saturday, April 27th for our annual Spring Tag Sale, which will take place from 9am-2pm. As per usual, there will be a variety of church craft and tag tables, so we hope to see you there!

Copies of the 2024 Directory are available in the Office. If you would like a digital copy of our Directory, please fill out the following Google Form (<https://mccucc.tiny.us/directory>) and we will send you a copy as soon as possible. If you would like a physical copy, please contact the office and we will set a copy aside for you.

We are always looking for new pictures for the Church website! If you happen to attend a Church event, please feel free to snap a few pictures and send them to us by email at office@mccucc.com.

Keep your Ark Banks floating! Please don't forget to keep bringing in your Ark Banks. The monies collected go into a discretionary fund which can be used to help people in need.

We are always looking for Volunteers for Coffee Hour. If you are interested, please contact Aren in the office, or use the sign-up sheet now located near the main entrance to the Parish House.

Donations for the Food Bank are needed if you are able to contribute. Non-perishable items such as canned beef stew, hearty soups, canned fish, peanut butter, mac and cheese packages, and oatmeal would be greatly appreciated.

2024 Easter Memorial Plants



This year's beautiful Easter Memorial Plants have been given by:

Susanne Paulette

In Memory of
Wilis and Kathryn Copeland

Ellen Amato

In Memory of
Loved Ones

Diane Scott &
Leon Fiftal

In Memory of
Loved Ones

Valerie & Tom
Duffy

In Memory of
Donnalee and Edward Buzas &
Robert Duffy

Linda Vanacore

In Memory of
Mom and Dad &
Ron Vanacore

Mary Conklin

In Memory of
Larry Conklin

Anna Anderson	In Memory of Gina Kapteina & John Anderson
Rick Terry & Lisa Perruzzi	In Memory of Andy Peruzzi & Dick and Rita Terry
Janis Hewitt	In Memory of Departed Loved Ones
Sandee Martin	In Memory of Departed Loved Ones
Charlotte Peet	In Memory of the Peet and McLean Families
Natalie Baronowski	In Memory of Thom Sobalsky & Jim Baronowski
Beverly and Dave Jurkiewicz	In Memory of Ethel and James Brooks & Virginia and John Jurkiewicz
Lorraine Patterson	In Memory of William Patterson
Bill Copeland	In Memory of William (Ev) Copeland

Sally and Dick
Jaynes

In Memory of
Bing and Esther Humphrey &
Hal and Virginia Jaynes

Beverly Churchill

With loving thoughts and
memories with Red, Church,
and John Churchill, and
husband Bernie.



EASTER WORSHIP: A LOOK AHEAD

Please join us every Sunday at 10am for service!

April 7th, 2024: Holy Communion

Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 4: 32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1: 19-31
John 20: 19-31

April 14th, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 3: 12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3: 1-7
Luke 24: 36b-48

April 21st, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 4: 5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3: 16-24
John 10: 11-18

April 28th, 2024: Annual Meeting

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 8: 26-40
Psalm 22: 25-31
1 John 4: 7-21
John 15: 1-8



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