

## WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>

Easter Sunday



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today we slow down.**

**Today we take it all in.**

**Today we rest in good news.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today we are singing.**

**Today we are full to the brim.**

**Today joy cannot be contained.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today the stone was rolled away.**

**Today the women saw the empty grave.**

**Today we know—death does not win.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

UMH 302 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today v 1-4

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of new life,**

**we are a mixed bag.**

**We want to be full to the brim with hope and joy,  
but often we overflow with comparison and doubt.**

**We want to embody the resurrection,  
but often we'd rather stay the same than to begin  
again.**

**We want to have the courage to be like the women  
on that Easter morning—**

**to run and speak truth,**

**but often we are weary of courage and uncertain of  
our own voices.**

**Forgive us for all the ways we remain unchanged.**

**Break into our hearts.**

**Overflow here.**

**With hope we pray, amen.**

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**...You are forgiven, loved, and claimed.**

**May we live full to the brim in response.**

**Thanks be to God, and let it be so.**

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (CONT)**

**GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**PA**

**TIME OF PRAYER**

**UNISON PRAYER**

**Holy God,**

**we so often long for more.**

**We want more than the hamster wheel life**

**of to-do lists and errands,**

**meal prep and alarm clocks.**

**We want more than comparison and competition.**

We want more than certainty that drowns out curiosity.  
We want more than fear that leads to violence.  
We want a life that is teeming with alleluias.  
We want a life overcrowded with hope.  
We want a life congested with good news.  
We want a life jam-packed with forgiveness.  
We want a life bursting with laughter.  
We want a life so full that the stone just has to be rolled away.  
So today we pray—  
break the dam.  
Dust the cobwebs from our ears.  
Clear space in our minds to hear you clearly.  
Speak to us as only you can.  
It's what we long for.  
We long for you.  
Gratefully we pray, amen.

#### PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER (MUSIC)

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#### 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 now and  
forever. Amen.

#### HYMN

UMH 318 Christ Is Alive vs. 1,2,5

#### OFFERTORY

#### \*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

## UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,  
giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you not with our words only,  
but with our whole lives.

Choir Anthem Christ has Risen by John Bell

Testimony of Love

Recene Woodfolk

## LESSON I Acts 10:34-43 CEB

**Peter said, “I really am learning that God doesn’t show partiality to one group of people over another. <sup>35</sup> Rather, in every nation, whoever worships him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> This is the message of peace he sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all! <sup>37</sup> You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. <sup>38</sup> You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, <sup>41</sup> not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that**

**everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”**

**May God add a blessing to this reading.**

**\*LESSON 2**

**John 20:1-18 CEB**

**Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they’ve put him.” <sup>3</sup> Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. <sup>4</sup> They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. <sup>5</sup> Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn’t go in. <sup>6</sup> Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. <sup>7</sup> He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus’ head. It wasn’t with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> They didn’t yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.**

**<sup>11</sup> Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. <sup>13</sup> The angels asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”**

**She replied, “They have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they’ve put him.” <sup>14</sup> As soon as she had said this,**

she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “**Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?**”

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, “**Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him.**”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “**Mary.**”

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “**Rabbouni**” (which means *Teacher*).

<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “**Don't hold on to me, for I haven't yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, 'I'm going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'**”

<sup>18</sup> **Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, “I've seen the Lord.” Then she told them what he said to her.**

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

An Expansive Life

HYMN

Expansive Life

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a God who can astound us—

**a God who created the mountains of Colorado,  
the stars on a summer night, and the green of Ireland.**

We believe in Jesus, whose example changes us—

**an example of love for those on the fringes,  
healing for the sick, and welcome for the lonely.**

We believe that Jesus was abandoned by his friends,  
wounded, mocked, and killed by the state.

**And in a garden, three days later, we believe that life began again—**

**the stone was rolled back, as death lost its sting.**

Ever since that day, we believe the Spirit has been inviting us into an expansive life—

**a life not measured by wealth or accolades, but a life full to the brim with joy,**

**overflowing with laughter, saturated in hope, and decorated with good news.**

Death has lost its sting.

**We believe, and are set free. Thanks be to God, amen.**

BENEDICTION

Celtic Alleluia – choir only

POSTLUDE