

Immanuel United Church of Christ/St. John United Church of Christ
Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

Pastor: Rev. Lynn Martin

9:30 a.m.

Pianist: Cheryl Dotterweich

Liturgist: Barbara Graunke

TRUMPET FANFARE

Matthew Bray

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ has been raised from the dead. "O death, where is your victory? O grave, where is your sting?" Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise God, who brings life out of death and hope out of despair.

Many: Praise God, who has raised Jesus from the dead.

One: Praise God, who gathers up the fragments left by human destruction and creates new possibilities. Christ is risen!

Many: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

UNISON GATHERING PRAYER

We rejoice, mighty God, that you have raised Jesus from the dead. We praise you and glorify your name. New life blossoms where dead hopes were buried. Today the world is made new. Be known among us in resurrection power; through Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.

OPENING HYMN#216, Chalice Hymnal

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 65:17-25

BELL CHOIR

"He Lives"

Arranged by Mitchell Eithun

GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN#18, Songbook for Saints and Sinners

"Lord of the Dance"

SERMON

BELL CHOIR

"Rejoice the Lord is King"

Arranged by Ron Mallory

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN#506, Chalice Hymnal

"Healer of Our Every Ill", refrain only, twice

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

HYMN #47, Chalice Hymnal

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

In the resurrection you bring new possibilities out of hopeless situations. Free us from all despair that we may bring your hope to those who have lost heart. Through the presence of Jesus Christ among us, draw us into a community of freedom, hope, and love. Work your new creation among us that we may serve you without fear. God Most Loving, we praise your name forever; through Jesus our risen Christ and Savior. Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN#218, Chalice Hymnal

“Thine Is the Glory”

POSTLUDE

Cheryl Dotterweich

Isaiah 65:17-25 (New Revised Standard Version)

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

John 20:1-18 (New Revised Standard Version)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to

me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.