

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

April 5, 2026 Easter Sunday

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 45 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia!

There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered.

There is also a Square device at the Sanctuary entry if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change Without Notice

Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

PROCESSION

Opening Song

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

No. 233

Welcome & Announcements

Centering

At the sound of the singing bowl,
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together

Illumination

Tee

Prayers of the Community

Andrea Albamonte

Song of Response

Choir

First Reading ~ *John 20:1-18*

Kurt Jaeger and Susan McGlohn

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 Rabbi out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward 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 dazzling robes, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They asked her, “Why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Rabbi, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus asked her, “Why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?” 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, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to Abba God. Rather, go to the others and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Abba and your Abba, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Rabbi”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Second Reading

Petra Theron and Cory Houston

~ adapted from Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., in "Easter Calls Us to Resurrection"

The old news about Easter is that it is about resurrection. The new news may be that it is not so much about the resurrection of Jesus as it is about our own. Jesus, you see, is already gone from the tomb. The only question now is whether or not we are willing to abandon our own, leave the old trappings behind and live in the light of Jesus, the Christ, whom the religious establishment persecuted and politicians condemned. It is the greatest question of them all.

The resurrection to which Easter calls us — our own — requires that we prepare to find God where God is by opening ourselves to the world around us with open vision and a listening ear. That means that we must be prepared to be surprised by God in strange places, in ways we never thought we'd see and through the words of those we never thought we'd hear. We must reach out to them in order to discern what visions to see with them, what cries to cry for them, what stones to move from the front of their graves -- as well as our own.

Song of Response

Morning Has Broken

♩. = 56 Unison

The musical score is written for unison voice and piano accompaniment. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 56. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing, black-bird has
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun-lit from heav - en, like the first
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e -

sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them,
sweet - ness of the wet gar - den, sprung in com -
la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre -

spring - ing fresh from the Word!
plete - ness where God's feet pass.
a - tion of the new day!

Reflection

Who Are You Looking For?

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Cornelius Butler

Offertory

We Are An Offering

MCC NoVA Choir

Rite of Membership

☞ Welcome To The Table! ☛

Rev. Emma Chattin

Invitation To The Table

Consecration & Words of Institution

Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

Time of Individual Prayer and Blessing

Community Blessing Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song

We Are The Church Alive

*We are the Church Alive,
Christ's presence on this earth
We give God's Spirit body in
The act of our new birth.
As yielded open channels
For God's descending dove,
We shout and sing, With joy we bring
God's all-inclusive love.*

*We are the Church Alive,
Our faith has set us free;
No more enslaved by guilt and shame,
We live our liberty!
We follow Christ's example
And freedom now proclaim,
Destroying myths of doubt and fear
In Jesus' mighty name.*

*We are the Church Alive,
The body must be healed;
Where strife has bruised and battered us,
God's wholeness is revealed.
Our mission is an urgent one;
In strength and health let's stand,
So that our witness to God's light
Will shine through every land.*

*We are the Church Alive,
All praise to God on high!
Creator, Savior, Comforter!
We laud and magnify
Your name, almighty God of love;
Pray give us life, that we
May be your church, the Church Alive,
For all eternity.*

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Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☛

**THE EASTER LILIES GRACING OUR SANCTUARY
ARE GIVEN BY:**

Jamie & Marcie
For our Mothers, Peg & Machiko

David Teodosio
Dedicated to Carol Krieser

Margaret Rood
*In memory of H.W. and Mary M. Rood
Irwin and Margaret Kaplan*

Denise Carson
To The Trans Communities

Jaime Fernandez
In Memory of Dale

Sharon Sharp
In memory of Thomas Sharp

Shawn Flynn
*To All Those in our Community
Who Have Paved Our Road for Us!*

Margot Scheiffley
In Loving Memory of My Father, Leonard Richardson

Maru Figueroa
*In Memory of Paty Figueroa's Husband
In Memory of Nick Sanders*

Dawn Chattin & Scott Nash
*In honor of our two sisters,
Heather James & Rev. Emma Chattin*

Heather James and Rev. Emma Chattin
*In memory of Rev. E. Lee Chattin
and Chloe Gwendolyn Rodgers Chattin,
In memory of James Powell and Winifred Powell,
And in Celebration of our Grand Niece, Ruby! ☺*