

Easter Worship, April 12, 2020

Greeting

Rev. Dr. Wesley Wachob
Pensacola FUMC

Prelude

Improvisation – Toccata on “The Strife is O’er”

Rev. Dr. Rick Branch
Pensacola FUMC

Opening Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, UMH 302

Montgomery FUMC

*On this most holy of all days, we join our voices in song to
proclaim the Easter truth: Christ the Lord is risen.
Let us sing together: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

Opening Prayer

Rev. Reed Hoppe
TMS Global

Please join me for our opening prayer:

*Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the
gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord’s resurrection, by
the renewing of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Apostles Creed

Rev. Antonio Christie
Fairhope UMC

*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
Whose holy faith let us now declare.*

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And 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, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Two Song Praise Set

You Are Life and Way Maker
Hillsong Worship Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu,
arr. Leeland

Crosspoint UMC

Psalms 118:19-29

Beverly Maddox
Conference Lay Leader

Hear now the Word of the Lord, from Psalm 118, verses 19 to 29:

*Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!*

*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.*

*You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.*

Children's Moment

Rev. Christina Shaver
St. Paul UMC (Gulf Breeze)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Amy Persons
Point Washington UMC

Gospel Reading

Rev. Dr. Hays McKay
Covenant UMC

Hear now God's Word from the Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 20, verses 1-18:

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.

Special Music

Christ is Risen
Matt Maher and Mia Fieldes

Rev. Patrick Hitchman-Craig and
Stephanie Jeck
FUMC Opelika

Sermon

What A Difference a Day Makes

Bishop David Graves
Alabama-West Florida Episcopal Area

Closing Hymn

Because He Lives, UMH 364

Auburn UMC

Indeed, because he lives, we can face tomorrow. Let us sing together.

Benediction

Rev. Kitsy Dixon
Jackson Chapel UMC, St. Matthew UMC (Eutaw), St. Paul UMC (Eutaw)

*Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed.
We are sent forth in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia!
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.*

Postlude

Widor's Toccata

Colleen Hicks
Dauphin Way UMC