



Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday in Easter

*As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation
as we prepare to worship God together.*

Prelude

Prelude

William Harris

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Choral Introit

Come and Fill Our Heart

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Call to Worship

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Come and see the love God has given to us.

People: Come and see what it means to be children of God.

Leader: Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

People: With joy, we come to see the Lord.

Hymn No. 304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

1. Easter people raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices; heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people let us sing.
2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.
3. Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster to our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.

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Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Holy and righteous one,
we are stunned by the miracles of new life
and forgiveness you offer.
When our awe turns to disbelief,
renew us with your joy.
When our fear turns to rejection,
lead us into your presence.
When our stumbling leads to sin,
forgive us by your grace,
and direct our steps in your paths of righteousness.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

Words of Assurance and Passing the Peace of Christ

Beloved, we are God's children now. Because we have this hope, we are forgiven and purified. As beloved children, we are made one with Christ and brought into the righteousness of God. Let us share this hope and love with one another as we greet one another in the name of the risen Christ.

Announcements

Children's Time

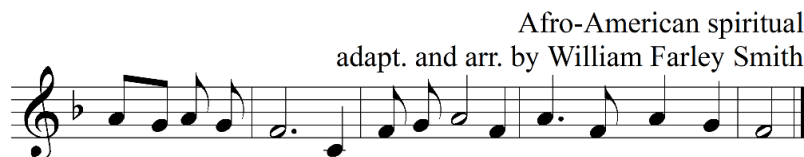
Prayer of Illumination

First Reading

[Acts 3:12-19](#)

Psalter

Psalm 4



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad, to make the wonud-ed whole.

Response

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
**You have given me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.**
- 2 How long, O people, shall my honor suffer shame?
How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?
- 3 But know that the Lord has set apart the righteous as God's own;
the Lord hears when I call.

Response

- 4 Be angry, but do not sin;
commune with your own hearts in your beds, and be silent.
- 5 Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord!"
- 7 You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.
- 8 **In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone,
O Lord, make me lie down in safety**

Response

Second Reading

[1 John 3:1-7](#)

Hymn No. 2115

Christ Has Risen

HOLY MANNA

1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor. Christ is risen, God is here!
2. Christ has risen for the people whom he loved and died to save;
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation is not silenced by the tomb.

3. Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night, sensing loss and limitations where their faith had once burned bright. They bemoan what is no longer, they expect no hopeful sign till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.
4. Christ has risen and for ever lives to challenge, and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange. Christ is risen. Christ is present, making us what he has been—evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

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Gospel Reading

[Luke 24:36b-48](#)

Sermon

Easter Changes Everything

Dr. Matt Bates

Affirmation of Faith No. 888

Affirmation from I Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20

Leader: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand and by which we are saved:

**People: Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross
reconciles all things to God. Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Anthem

Grant Us Thy Peace

Felix Mendelssohn

Doxology No. 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 that 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.**

Hymn No. 2241

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

LAND OF REST

1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.
2. We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free; where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.
4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim. God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

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Benediction

Choral Response

Come and Fill Our Hearts

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Postlude

Toccata

John Weaver

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***The altar flowers this morning are given by Rev. Pat Shipley in memory of her mother,
Elinor Shipley on her birthday.***

Reminder!

Help us know that you worshiped with us this morning by signing the online attendance pad [here](#).

***Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us throughout the week to make all the worship services
this week possible.***

Welcome!

Centenary United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation, extending hospitality and encouraging full participation of all, regardless of age, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, education, economic background, and physical or mental ability.

We are glad that you have joined us today! If you are a new guest, we hope that you experience a warm welcome! Please return soon and consider us for your church home. If you are interested in church membership, please speak with a pastor.

Announcements

JOIN US ON APRIL 21 AS WE CELEBRATE IZZY SPIERS On Izzy's last Sunday at Centenary, join us at a reception following the worship. This will be a chance to say farewell, meet his new wife, Jensen, and send them off with our congratulations and best wishes! Hope you will join us! If you have a favorite brunch, pick up style dish you would like to share, please contact Mary E. Vetovec - mevetovec@aol.com.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH – The Centenary/Ginter Park UWF have two upcoming opportunities:

- **Wednesday, April 17 - 1:30 pm at Ginter Park UMC.** Our own Lorna Leake will give a short history of our Smethie Circle & UMW at Centenary. Refreshments will be served! Come join us!
- **Tuesday, May 7 - 12:30 pm at Mary E. Vetovec's home** Pot Luck: Quiche, Salad & Dessert luncheon! This is open to all women of the church & will replace our May C/GP UWF meeting. Please call, text or email Sharon Steele to let us know you plan to join us! We look forward to seeing you at this fun get-together! This will be our last meeting until September! Enjoy your summer!

SAVE THE DATE - The Serving Team invites the congregation to a *Mission Fair*, immediately following the service on May 19, 2024. At the Mission Fair, you'll get a chance to visit local organizations offering volunteer opportunities. As you make your way through each booth, you will earn a ticket. The ticket(s) will allow you to build an ice cream sundae.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY –Join us on Zoom at 10:00am. An email with more information and the Zoom link is sent out every Tuesday. If you would like to join us, contact the church office for the details and to be put on the email list.

Upcoming Events

April 15	5:00pm	Change the World/RVA
April 16	Noon	AA
April 17	10:00am	Zoom Bible Study
	1:30pm	UWF at Ginter Park UMC
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
April 19	10:30am	Friday Lunch Program
	Noon	AA
April 21	10:30am	Worship – In person and online