

Announcements

Christy Royer GoFundMe: Support Christy Royer's journey to becoming a FDN Licensed Practitioner and making a difference in the world of holistic health! Learn more about her inspiring project and how you can contribute by visiting her GoFundMe page or speaking directly with Christy. Your support could pave the way for transformative health solutions!

Office Closure: Just a reminder that the office closure will continue this week, through May 17th, as the Office Manager is on vacation. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. For urgent matters, please use the church office email listed on our website. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Pentecost Sunday: will be observed next Sunday, May 19. All are invited to wear red.

A Special Thanks This Mother's Day

Join us in expressing our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to making our Mother's Day celebration a memorable one.

*Thanks to **Bob Denham** and all the male volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to craft and prepare the Mother's Day Brunch.*

*Thanks to **Diana Washburn** for her beautiful decorations, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our brunch.*

*Our heartfelt thanks to **Clara Pumphrey** for sharing her moving poems with us, enriching our celebration with the beauty of words.*

*Thanks to **Petr Kowalski** for acquiring the lovely flowers that brightened our venue and our day.*

*Thanks to our **Worship Team & A/V Team** for ensuring a seamless order of service that bring each and every Worship experience to life.*

And, lastly, we extend a heartfelt thank you to all the mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures in our lives. Your love, guidance, and support shape us every day. We celebrate and honor you today and every day.

University

United Methodist Church



Order of Worship

Mother's Day Brunch Service

7th Sunday of Easter / Ascension Sunday

May 12th, 2024 – 10 AM

Centering Words:

Why stare at the heavens to find God? Look within, for God's Spirit is there. Look around, for Christ's disciples are all around.

Gathering Songs:

- Leslie Hall

Gathering & Recognition of Guests:

- Carol Oza

Call to Worship:

- Carol Oza

Clap your hands and sing for joy!

Christ is in our midst and in our lives.

Clap your hands and sing for joy!

Christ calls us to worship and praise.

Let's worship together.

(*) Opening Prayer:

Risen Christ, be present in our lives and in our worship. Help us recognize and celebrate your presence. Grant us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may answer the call to be your disciples and bring your message of love to the world. Amen.

Community Prayer

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer in Unison

Special Music/Poetry Reading

Scripture: Mark 16:1-8, (NRSVUE)

- Carol Oza

¹ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be

alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon: “Be Sanctified in Truth

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

Invitation to the Offering

- Carol Oza

With songs of joy and hearts of love, let us bring our offerings and gifts in gratitude to God.

Offering

Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Offering Prayer

- Carol Oza

Glorious God, may these gifts bring glory to you and grace to your world. May our lives and our ministry reflect your love, and may we spread your message of love throughout the world.

Amen.

Benediction

- Rev. Rubén Esponda

Go forth with joy.

Go forth with hope.

Go forth with Christ’s love leading the way.

Gathering Songs:

“Loving Spirit” (FWS 2123)

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit, you have chosen me to be
you have drawn me to your wonder, you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother you enfold me, hold my life within your own,
feed me with your very body, form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father you protect me, teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder, let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in your closeness I am known and held and blessed:
in your promise is my comfort, in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit, you have chosen me to be
You have drawn me to your wonder, you have set your sign on me.

“Blessed Assurance” (UMH 369)

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

Opening Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (UMH 110)

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power
are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God’s own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth,
his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can
endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill;
God’s truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

Prayer Hymn: “Thy Word is a Lamp” (UMH 601) - Leslie Kowalski

Refrain:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I fell afraid, think I’ve lost my way,
still you’re there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Refrain

Now I will not forget your love for me
and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end.

Refrain

Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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!

Closing Hymn: “Victory in Jesus” (UMH 370) - Leslie Kowalski

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.