



We invite you to join us online (www.westmarketchurch.org) or by radio ([WPET 950 AM](#) & [92.7 FM](#)) to participate in worship this Sunday.

Below you will find the bulletin for the 11:00 a.m. service for the Second Sunday of Easter, April 7, 2024.

We come as Christ's body to honor God's presence together.

We come to share faith, hope, and love with one another.

We come to proclaim and to hear "God is with us! Thanks be to God!"

~Pastors Otto and Jeremy



April 7, 2024

**Second Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion**

11:00 a.m.

Silent Meditation

*In faith, we will gather round the Table to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.*

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE:

“Joy, Joy, Joy”
Liddy Anders, piano

Anonymous

† CALL TO WORSHIP:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
We have not seen the risen Christ,
but we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.
We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,
but we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.
We have not touched the wounds from the cross,
but we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.

written by Thom M. Shuman, and posted on the Lectionary Liturgies blog.

ENTRANCE

† PROCESSIONAL 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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† COLLECT:

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may live sacrificially in the midst of neighbors and strangers,
And live by faith in the midst of holy mysteries.
All Glory to God. Amen.

† GLORIA PATRI: No. 70

MEINEKE

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Text: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th century

PROCLAMATION

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN: *Please join us in singing after the Children's Message*

No. 310, v.1

"He Lives"

ACKLEY

**I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today, I know that he is living,
whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him, he's always near.
He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives?
He lives within my heart.**

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LESSON FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31 (NRSVue)

Reader: Sabrina Hinson

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

SERMON:

"This Holy Mystery"

Angela Roberson

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray.**

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
That proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit called and anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to free those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners, inviting all those to the table that others had rejected or ignored.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us:

**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 who 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.**

Sharing in Communion at home but united by the Holy Spirit.

COMMUNION ANTHEM:

“Jesus, Feed Us”

arr. Brian Wentzel

*Bread of life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us. Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Bread now break and wine now pour, Jesus, feed us. Make us one, our hope restore; feed us with your love.
Grant forgiveness in the feast- Jesus, feed us- for the greatest and the least; feed us with your love.
Thank you for this gift we share. Jesus, feed us. Save God's children everywhere;
feed us with your love. Jesus, feed us...
Bread of life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us, feed us with your love.*

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into all the world in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

RESPONSE

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THANKSGIVING TO GOD THROUGH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

*For your convenience, you can give to West Market Street UMC by text message.
Text WMC to 73256. Follow prompts to complete your giving.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

“Duo”

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

† **DOXOLOGY:** No. 94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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!**

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapted Gilbert H. Viera, 1978 © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-730713

† **OFFERING BLESSING**

SENDING FORTH

† **HYMN OF DEDICATION:** No. 322

“Up from the Grave He Arose”

CHRIST AROSE

1. Low in the grave he lay; Jesus my Savior, waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

REFRAIN: Up from the grave he arose (he arose), with a mighty triumph o’er his foes (o’er his foes); he arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever, with his saints to reign. He arose! (he arose) He arose! (he arose) Hallelujah! Christ arose!

2. Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior; vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!
REFRAIN

3. Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior; he bore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! **REFRAIN**

Text: Robert Lowry, 1874

† **BENEDICTION**

† **BENEDICTION RESPONSE:** No. 158, v.3

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

SPANISH HYMN

**Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore his goodness we’ll adore, singing forevermore:
Alleluia! Amen!**

Text: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843

POSTLUDE:

“O Sons and Daughters”

Afred V. Fedak

***Our Service of Worship is ended.
Let our worship through service begin.***

† Please stand as you are able.

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**Flowers for today’s service are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Gloria Covington by her family.**

