

Easter Sunday Service

Ringing of the Church Bells

Welcome

Prelude

*Call to Worship

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Many: This is the day that the stone is cast aside
and the mantle of darkness is cast away!**

One: God has swallowed up death forever
and brushed the tears from our faces.

Many: This is the day of salvation!

One: Be glad and rejoice – the Lord of Light has
come and reigns forever. Christ is risen!

Many: He is risen indeed!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Opening Hymn #216 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”**

*Prayer of Invocation

**Holy and Living God, like a tomb’s darkness that gives way to light,
open us this day to newness of life; open us to your love, to your
acceptance, to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one
another and to the possibilities you have in store for us. Give us
hope for the future and a passion for life here and now. We pray in
the name of the one who destroyed death, Jesus Christ, our Savior,
Amen.**

***Congregational Response #226 “He Lives!” refrain only**

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.

Children’s Message

Scripture Reading

John 20: 1-18

Special Music

“Pan Pastorale”

Ally Donnelly, flute

(Donjon)

Susan Walter, piano

Morning Prayer - Pastoral Prayer followed by The Lord’s Prayer

***Please rise if you are able and comfortable doing so**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Communion Hymn

“Here is Bread”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Jesus our Host, we yearn for your Communion; we yearn for the hope of
new life; we yearn to meet you here. And yet, despite your invitation, we
find ourselves stumbling on our way. Forgive us. Hear now in silence the
confessions of your people. (Silence)

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news! “All the prophets testify about him that everyone
who believes in him finds forgiveness of sins through his name!” In the
name of the risen Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of the risen Christ,
you are forgiven! Glory to God!**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your voices to speak of his great love!

We lift them up in joyful acclamation!

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give
thanks to you, Living God. Time after time, you draw us here to inspire us,
feed us and save us. Especially when our love fails, you are here, steadfast
and true. You created this world and called it good. You created us to
proclaim your good to all. We remember the life and ministry of Jesus:
how he healed the sick, fed the hungry, ate with sinners, and preached
forgiveness and peace. It was at this table that he issued the invitation: to
gather together, to share together, to remember together, and to go and do
likewise in the world.

Words of Institution

And so, on this day of resurrection, we raise our voices to proclaim this
timeless truth:

Christ has died. Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, your people, and on these gifts of bread and
cup. Make us lovers and tellers of your word. Make us healers and bestowers
of your grace. Make us one body in Jesus Christ. All glory and honor is
yours, Almighty God, now and for all time! Amen.

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Grant, O God, that we who have gathered on this Day of Resurrection, will move on as people of hope, people of life, people of faith. May the meal we have shared today revive us in body and soul and energize us to share the Good News. Life wins! Alleluia and Amen!

Special Music

“Glorious, Risen Christ”
(Burke/Larson)

Combined Choir
Katie Maurer, director
Susan Walter, piano

Sermon

“7 Words-The Last or the First?”

The Presentation of Our Gifts

Offering Invitation

Offertory Response #47 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

God of abundance, we offer these gifts to you in thanksgiving and joy for the presence of the Living Christ. May these gifts bring new life to those both near and far. May we offer ourselves in service to you and to one another. Amen.

*Closing Hymn # 218

“Thine Is the Glory”

*Benediction

From darkness and despair, we find hope and joy.

Christ is risen! We go forth in joy!

From doubt and betrayal, we find trust and faith.

Christ is risen! We go forth in faith!

From suffering and death, we find healing and life.

Christ is risen! We go forth to live!

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

*Postlude

Staff:

Rev. Mary Hurley, Pastor, St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Rev. Lynn Marino & Rev. Dr. Thom Webster, Transitional Co-Pastors Zion Evangelical UCC

Ms. Katie Maurer, Director of Music, St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Ms. Susan Walter, Organist/ Pianist Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ

Ms. Ally Donnelly, Pianist/ Flutist, Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ

Ms. Jenny Hammer, Office Manager, St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Ms. Denise Kissel, Office Administrator, Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ

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“7 Words-The Last or the First?”



Zion Evangelical UCC and St. Paul's UCC

Easter Service

April 17, 2022

10:30 am