



Faith United Methodist Church
Faith is a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network
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April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

Bill Jones, Liturgist

Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church.

- Please use the QR code in your bulletin to record your attendance and prayer concerns today. You can even use this code to check in if you are watching online. If you have no idea what that means, don't worry about it, we've got you covered!
- Juice, Joe & Justice meets today following worship in room 206. The group will discuss Native Americans and support of Tribal sovereignty. We invite everyone to participate - remember these discussions are not a continuing series and every conversation stands alone.
- The Faith UMC Garden Team invites everyone to join the Earth Day garden build event on Saturday, April 22 at 10:30 a.m. We are grateful for anyone willing to volunteer their time and their power and garden tools. Contact Alex Cooper with any questions.

CENTERING

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

PRELUDE

The Strife is O'er

Composer: Carl Simone, 1918-2003

Yeri So, Organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Jones, Liturgist

ONE: We gather as people on a journey.

ALL: **We believe and we need proof,
we do good and we sin.**

**We are imperfect humans,
and still beloved by God.**

ONE: Love and grace. Hope and faith.

These are the essence of the one we call God.

**ALL: We seek forgiveness and grace from
the One and from those we've harmed.**

**ONE: Assured of that grace,
we are ready to grow again.**

**ALL: We yearn for a new way,
a new perspective,
and a clear path.**

**ONE: Though we are full of trust
and full of doubt, we are here.
Speak to us, God!
Continue creating us!**

**ALL: Inspire our hearts.
Enlighten our minds.
Guide our actions.
Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

*HYMN #162

Alleluia, Alleluia

Words and Music: Donald Fishel, 1973

Congregation

Yeri So, Organ

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Bill Jones, Liturgist and Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

**ONE: Creator God,
we confess that at times we are skeptics.**

**ALL: At times we doubt that You exist
because of the evil we have seen in the world.**

**ONE: Oppression, marginalization, and plain hate still plague our world,
and it is hard to see Your love and light.**

**ALL: Sometimes, even those who bear Your name
do not walk in Your ways.**

ONE: Help us to see Your goodness in this world.

ALL: Help us to know Your love.

ONE: Fill us with Your love and goodness,
ALL: so that we might love one another,
and lift up one another in faith. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bill Jones, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE

Bill Jones, Liturgist

John 20:19-31

MESSAGE: “As I See It: Thomas Talks”

Janice Harmon, Director of Care, Connection and Inter-Gen Nurture

ANTHEM

Now the Green Blade Riseth

Music: French Carol, arr. Kevin McChesney, b. 1963

Words: J. M. C. Crum

Publisher: Hope Publishing Co. Carol Stream, IL; 1997, 2002

Chancel Choir: Dr. Michael Wu, Director

WONDER

MISSION MOMENT

“Becoming a lighthouse congregation.”

Susan Jones and Debbie Spriggs

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Brian Jones, Liturgist

WHAT NOW

PASTORAL PRAYER

Janice Harmon, Director of Care, Connection and Inter-Gen Nurture

***HYMN #304**

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

Words: William M. James, 1979

Music: Henry T. Smart, 1867

Congregation

Yeri So, Organ

SENDING FORTH

Janice Harmon, Director of Care, Connection and Inter-Gen Nurture

POSTLUDE

Easter Alleluia

Composer: Aloÿs Ottenwalder, 1869-1946

Yeri So, Organ

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given by Jim Pearson and Linda Pickle in memory of Jim's parents, James Pearson, Sr. and Martha Pearson.

FAITH UMC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Laura Norvell, Pastor

Andre Coleman, Tenor Section Leader

Janice Harmon, Director of Care, Connection and Inter-Gen Nurture

Valerie Kunsman, Office Administrator

Tessa Ricketts, Nursery Staff

Fred Rosetty, Financial Manager

Yeri So, Organist

Dr. Michael Wu, Music Director

Acknowledgements: Call to Worship: written by Tim Graves and posted on LiturgyBits. <https://liturgybits.wordpress.com>; Confession and Pardon: written by Rev. Mindi and posted on Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>; Prayer for Illumination: <https://www.caldwellpresby.org/docs/resources/Prayers%20for%20Illumination.pdf>; Invitation to Offering and Offertory Prayer: Feasting on the Word, year A, vol. 1; Christian Copyright Licensing International #3290074.