



Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

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Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask a greeter or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us.

May God bless your experience in worship with us today.
We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

**APRIL 11, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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CENTERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"

J.F. Alberti

(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)

GATHERING WORDS:

Pastor: Come, walk in the light.

People: **We walk together as children of light and love.**

Pastor: Come, gather in the love of God.

People: **We gather together as children of light and love.**

Pastor: Come, live in the unity of God's Holy Spirit.

People: **We live together as children of light and love.**

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

PRAISING

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

No. 304

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Give thanks to our risen Lord this holy day.

People: May we continue to celebrate the good news of Easter day.

Pastor: Today we celebrate anew the wondrous hope and joyous promise of new life lived in the presence of our risen Lord.

People: Now in our worship, we celebrate with great thanksgiving and join together in songs and hymns of praise and adoration.

OPENING PRAYER

Mighty God: With grateful hearts, we welcome you on this Second Sunday of Easter, joyously repeating the ancient Christian greeting: "Christ is risen!" "He is risen indeed!" Accept now, we pray, our homage for the forgiveness and the promise of newness, in this life and beyond, which in your amazing grace, you extend to us, through him. Amen.

INTROIT

"Thine Be the Glory"

No. 308 v. 1&3

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

HEARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears, our minds, and our hearts.

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Thy Word"

No. 601 (Refrain only)

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

FIRST LESSON

1 John 1:1-2:2

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia"

No. 186

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. John

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL IS READ

John 20:19-31

Pastor: The Gospel of the living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROCLAIMING

Sermon

Pastor Russel W. Shuluga

CONFESSING

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You have shown yourself to us, O God, by Word and Spirit, with signs and wonders, in flesh and blood, yet we still struggle to live and believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us; forgive us. Enter into our lives and cast out our fear so that we may come to trust in you and have life in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We have an advocate with God—Jesus Christ, the righteous one—who offered his life in love to save the world from sin. This is the good news of the gospel; in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

HYMN

"Victory in Jesus"

No. 370, v. 1

RESPONDING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The first Christian communities were one in heart and mind, sharing everything in common, that none would be in need. Let us be one in heart and mind as we share what we have with those in need this day.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Sarabande"

G.F. Handel

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Accept these gifts we humbly offer, gracious God. Use them, and use us, to reach into places where your goodness is not yet known. Make us good stewards of your word. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

THE INVITATION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospels tell us that on the first day of the week, the same day on which our Lord rose from the dead, he appeared to his disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Come then to the joyful feast of the Lord!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks, it is our joy and peace at all times and in all places to give thanks to You, almighty, everlasting God, through Christ, our Lord.

Pastor: For he is the true Lamb who has taken away the sins of the world. By his death, he has destroyed death for us. By his rising again, he has restored life to us. Therefore, with the whole company of saints—in heaven and on earth—we worship and glorify You, God most holy, and we sing with joy.

Pastor: We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until his coming again. For the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way the cup, after supper saying, "This cup is a new covenant of my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

People: Your death, O Christ, we proclaim. Your resurrection, we affirm with joy. Your coming, we await with hope. Glory be to you, Lord Jesus. Alleluia!

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PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pastor: Lord God, send your Holy Spirit upon us, that the bread which we break may be to us the communion of the body of Christ, and the cup which we bless the communion of his blood. Grant that being joined together in him we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things unto him who is the head, Christ our risen Lord.

All: Amen!

Pastor: Members of the household of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared this table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him, are not invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

People: We praise you, Lord, for these gifts of bread and wine. We offer ourselves as your people in your service.

Pastor: For Christ indeed has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Alleluia!

LORD'S PRAYER (to be sung)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Congregation of Jesus Christ, since the Lord has blessed us with his Word and Holy Supper, let us praise his name with thanksgiving.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord!

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: He is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Therefore, go in the power of this risen Christ to work, live, love and serve, for the resurrection has changed *everything*. You have nothing to fear. You are never alone. Sin and death will not have the final word. We are more than conquerors through him who loves us, who gave his life for us and who now sits at God's right hand interceding on our behalf. Go in peace, for Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Danish Amen"

No. 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

"He Lives"

No. 310, vs. 1 & 3

POSTLUDE

"Sing Praise to God"

L. Smith

"WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD"