

*Third Sunday of
Easter
April 19, 2026
10:30 a.m.*

OUR LORD'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There's a Place for You Here



*As you view and participate in this worship please note that **bolded text** invites ALL to voice.*

Gathering Music "Largo"

by George Frideric Handel

GATHERING TOGETHER

Wondering Out Loud

Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

Our fears and our prejudices blind us.

Open your eyes today and see the goodness of the Lord.

We're here; eyes open; and ready to see God at work, for good.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Think on This for Today

We come together, as a community, to worship, to share about our week and to ponder the Holy Spirit prompting our hearts and this ministry forward. You're voice matters! Welcome, one and ALL, in person and online, to THIS community of faith!

Prelude "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

by William Bradbury

Graceful Engagement

*Call to Worship

Family of God, when we feel afraid and pressed in on every side...

The Spirit protects and advocates for us.

When the world's problems seem too big to solve, and we don't know how to do the next right thing...

The Spirit comforts and strengthens us.

cont.

When we need wisdom to know what is ours to do and the courage to act...

The Spirit counsels and empowers us.

Family of God, on this journey of faith, we are not alone – God is with us!

Today, we call once again on the Holy Spirit to empower us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ who transform the world.

*Opening Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" vs. 1, 3

UMH 89

*Opening Prayer

Merciful God, who is more than we can ever imagine, give us a wider vision of the world; give us a broader view of justice; give us dreams of peace that are not defined by boundaries of geography or race or religion, or by the limitations of worldly structures and systems. Open our hearts and our minds that wherever we go, we may know Your voice calling us by name; calling us to serve, calling us to share, calling us to praise, so that we never give up on the promise of Your kin-dom, where the world is transformed, and ALL can enjoy life in all its fullness. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

Children's Message

One: And Jesus said... **ALL: Let the children come!**

Reading of Scripture Psalm 16 CEB; Colossians 2:6-10 CEB;
John 10:10 CEB

*Response

The word of God for ALL of us, God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "You Choose the Adverb"

Judie Liebenstein

RESPONDING TOGETHER

(please text prayers to 414-378-4012 and Pastor Kelly will receive them)

Response Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" vs. 2

UMH 384

Caring for Community, Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Responsive Prayer of Confession

God of gentle rains and warm sun, God who encourages growth,
we are creatures who sometimes grow quickly, and sometimes get stuck.
God of freedom, of liberation, of binding ropes being cut,
we are bound in ways we don't always understand or recognize.

God of exodus and exile and homecoming, God who calls us to leave where we are and come home,
help us to have the courage to make the journey and to trust in the path.
God of health and healing, God, who wants us to be made whole,
we come as people who are wounded in body and spirit, people who seek healing.
God, who has laid out a way for us to live, who has given us rules for living in community,
we come as people who sometimes go astray, people who stretch the rules.
Reflect now, personally, in this silent moment...

Word of Affirmation

God of grace, we come as people who live through that Grace. And so,
We praise You for the growth, we rejoice in being set free, we dance along the path that leads us home, we give thanks for the healing we have received, we relax in the knowledge that we are forgiven, and we live as people of Grace. Amen.

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ALL Together

UMH 895

Invitation to Giving Action

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you! **And, also with you!**

*Doxology "Eastertide"

TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, 88.44.88 WITH REFRAIN (ref. UMH 94)

**Praise Jesus Christ, who rose from death!
Praise to the Source of life and breath!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to the Spirit, holy dove,
Giver of life, of peace, of love.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

*Blessing Prayer

Abundant God, You call us beyond survival into life – abundant, rooted, and overflowing. You invite us to walk by faith, not as individuals alone, but as a community growing together in Christ's fullness. Receive now these gifts we offer, not out of scarcity or obligation, but in joyful response to Your goodness. Use them – and use us – to build up the body, to bless the world, and to proclaim that, in You, there is always more: more joy, more hope, more life. We give, trusting that You are still planting, still building, still transforming us into bold and joyful disciples. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Sending Forth

We confess that we don't always understand God's call in our lives.

We go forth committed to saying, "Yes!" to following Jesus, one day at a time.

May the Spirit lead and guide you to grow to maturity and speak the truth in love.

Our hearts and minds are open to being shaped by the Spirit to walking faithfully.

*Final Blessing

*Closing Hymn "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" *all verses* FWS 2153

*Postlude "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by William Runyan

Need hearing assistance? Hearing assist devices are available. Visit our tech room and someone will help you.

Lectionary readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-34 "God the True Shepherd"; Psalm 110 "A psalm of thanksgiving"; 1 Peter 2:19-25 "Follow the shepherd, even in suffering"; John 10:1-10 "Christ the shepherd"



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Highlighting, with gratitude, these servant leaders for today...

Wendi Haubert, Izzy Veit, Dave Smith, Rebecca Landgraf, Kathy Depies, Decker Henninger, Bianca Enriquez, Judie Liebenstein, Pat Mehring, Karen Haubert, Don Mains

CBA: Wendi Haubert/finance@ourlordsumc.org
Office Administrator: Tabitha Manning/office@ourlordsumc.org
Pastor: Kelly Liebenstein/pastorkelly@ourlordsumc.org

*Find us on Facebook and watch our live-streamed Sunday services at www.facebook.com/OurLordsUMC/
*Visit us on our website at www.ourlordsumc.org

Worship resource: Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>, Discipleship Ministries, <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>, Doxology from "Praising God" by Ruth C. Duck/Patricia Wilson-Kastner
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Our Lord's United Methodist Church is located on the ancestral homelands of the Potawatomi, Sioux (Ochethi Sakowin), Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, and Peoria people's.

"love boldly, serve joyfully, lead courageously"