



EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026



ASHLAND PLACE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

Lisle Garrity, *Defiant Joy*

PRELUDE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Handbell Choir

arr. McIntyre

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY *Three chimes signify the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES

Rev. Jennifer Porto

Please take this time to sign the attendance pad located in your pew, or scan the CONNECT QR code located on the back of this bulletin.

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

What are you looking for?

The light before dawn.

What are you looking for?

A reason to hope.

What are you looking for?

Joy after grief and flowers after winter.

What are you looking for?

A place to belong.

What are you looking for?

We are looking for the Messiah.

Good news! Come in. Love is alive!

Surely God is in this place.

♪❖HYMN OF PRAISE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (v. 1-3)

UMH 302

❖PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of resurrection, we confess, like a dog with a bone, we run aimlessly. We chase our tails, looking for things that provide answers to the suffering of the world, looking for comfort to our longest nights. You meet us in the darkness before dawn, but we mistake you for the gardener. Forgive us for seeking after worldly things. Forgive us for forgetting to seek you. Speak to us. Call us by name, that we might recognize you in our midst. With hope and gratitude we pray. Amen.

❖**PASSING OF THE PEACE** *As forgiven and reconciled people, let us pass the Peace of Christ with one another.*

❖ *Please Stand in body or spirit* **Bold Print** – *Congregation Reads Aloud*
Hearing amplifier devices are available. Please see an usher for assistance.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rabbouni, Teacher, we have spent the past six weeks asking questions. We have turned over every rock. We have shined a light in every dusty corner. We have opened the blinds. We have wrestled with truth. We have sought after you. So on this Easter morning, bring wisdom to our seeking. Move through this room until the walls echo with the sound of alleluias. Roll back the stones that might prevent us from drawing closer to you. Calm our hearts. Say our names. Awaken us to your presence in our midst. We are here. We are listening. We are seeking after you. Alleluia. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER

Psalm 46

UMH 780

Please join the choir in the sung response #1 when indicated by the red R.

♪ACT OF PRAISE

Risen for Me

Killian and Scott

Children's Choir with Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

After the children's moment, children may leave with our staff to go to the nursery. Following the service, parents can meet their children in The Landing.

MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.

♪❖HYMN OF PREPARATION

Up from the Grave He Arose

UMH 322

❖GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

May God bless the reading of the Word. **Thanks be to God.**

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

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. **universal*

♪❖ GLORIA PATRI

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Good Christians All, Rejoice!
Chancel Choir with Handbell Choir

arr. Page

♪❖ DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

♪❖ HYMN OF INVITATION

He Lives (v. 1, 3)

UMH 310

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ POSTLUDE

He Lives

Ackley



UPCOMING WEEK AT APUMC

7:00am Sunrise Service (Courtyard)
 9:00am Ascension Modern Service (FH)
 10:00am Sunday School
 11:00am Traditional Sanctuary Service (S)

Monday Office Closed

Tuesday Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP)

Wednesday Handbell Practice, 5:00pm
Choir Practice, 6:00pm

Thursday Men's Bible Study, 7:00am (WP)
Trivia Night, 7:00pm (206 State St.)

Friday Office Closed

FP-Fellowship Parlor, S-Sanctuary, WP-Wisteria Parlor
B-Basement, DW-Dumas Wesley, 126 Mobile Street

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these persons in your prayers: Fay Adams, John Allen, John and Angela Bell, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Maria Coleman, Bob Cook, Ann Cottrell, Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, Mihyon Ellis, Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Missy Foose, Marcia Golson, Holly Hastings (Dee Dee Cook's sister), Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Barbara Hunt, Andrew Irby, Tyler Mazey, Jean McCutchen, John McMurphy, David Richards, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Nancy Scott, Lonnie Spencer, Sherry Thomson, Robert Wheeler (Emily McGough's brother), Merrill Whitener, Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers (**new concern this week*)

OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Monday, April 6.

THE JOURNEY CLASS invites you to join the upcoming study of "The Mission of the Body of Christ," by Russ Ramsey. This dynamic narrative traces the journey of the early church through the book of Acts, as the people of God carried out Jesus' mission as his ambassadors. We meet in Room 202 upstairs in the Fellowship Building at 10am. We'll meet on April 12 to begin the new study. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Kristi McClellan.

USA CAMPUS OUTREACH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

We are planning another fellowship opportunity with our young friends from the University of South Alabama and hope to rekindle the flame of former softball glory here at APUMC. If this piques your interest in any way, as a player or spectator, then mark your calendar now for Sunday, April 26! We plan to start games around 3pm on the fields at USA.

WELCOME

We want to thank you for choosing to worship with us at Ashland Place United Methodist Church. If you have questions about church activities, church membership, or the Christian faith, we would love to speak with you.



Are you visiting today? If so, please scan this QR code to complete a CONNECT card, or contact a staff member to assist you.

CONNECT

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor Dr. Darren McClellan
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FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offering Received Last Sunday \$10,488



To support the many ministries of APUMC, please scan this QR code and donate online.

ONLINE GIVING

Hymns and Responses

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Up from the Grave He Arose

UMH 322

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

3. Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;
he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! 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 for-
ever, with his saints to reign. He arose! (he
arose) He arose! (he arose) Hallelujah! Christ
arose!

He Lives

UMH 310

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world to-
day; 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) 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) he lives, (he lives) sal-
vation to impart! You ask me how I know he
lives? He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see his loving
care, and though my heart grows weary, I nev-
er will despair. I know that he is leading
through all the stormy blast; the day of his ap-
pearing will come at last. He lives, (he lives) 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) he lives, (he
lives) salvation to impart! You ask me how I
know he lives? He lives within my heart.

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your
voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus
Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him,
the help of all who find; none other is so lov-
ing, so good and kind. He lives, (he lives) 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) he lives, (he
lives) salvation to impart! You ask me how I
know he lives? He lives within my heart.

Responsive Psalter: Psalm 46

Psalm 46

Martin Luther
trans. by Frederick H. Hedge
Martin Luther

RESPONSE 1 (Easter & General)

A might - y for - tress is our God,
a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city which shall not be moved; God will help it at the dawn of the day.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; God's voice resounds, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

R

Come, behold the works of the Lord, who has wrought desolations in the earth;

who makes wars cease to the end of the earth, breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire!

"Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

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