



Great Falls United Methodist Church

10100 Georgetown Pike ☙ Great Falls, VA 22066

703-759-3705 ☙ www.greatfallsumc.org

Reverend Livingstone S. Dore, Pastor

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

*"Let resurrection joy lift us from loneliness
and weakness and despair
to strength and beauty and happiness."*

We Gather in Praise and Worship

GATHERING

Then Sings My Soul
Stuart K. Hine & Mary McDonald

Chancel Choir

WELCOME & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES Amy Miller

CENTERING Moderato in C
J. Blied

Alice Eelman
Music Director

This signals the beginning of our worship service. Let us be in quietness and a spirit of prayer.

Our Worship to God

*CALL TO WORSHIP

AM

L: People of God, we have been redeemed and set free!

C: Jesus, our Savior, is alive!

L: People of God, we have been given new life!

C: Alleluia! Jesus, our Savior, is Risen! He is Present! He is Alive!

*HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (vs. 1-4)

302 UMH

*OPENING PRAYER

LD

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is always with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed!

P: Let us pray:

C: Gracious God, we are here today to celebrate. You have defeated sin and conquered death through the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. We join all creation in singing our praise, pledging our allegiance and offering our lives in worship and service as we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord. Hallelujah! Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, who in love has shared the earth with all people. We believe in Jesus Christ, whose resurrection gives us freedom and life. We believe in the Spirit of God, who works in and through all who seek God's will. We believe that God overcomes the power of sin and will establish justice and peace for all.

("Belief," Sharlande Sledge)

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Greet your neighbor in the love and peace of Christ

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

in Room 12 & 15 downstairs

Hubert Deaton/Riffat Hassan

Proclamation of God's Word

THE PSALTER	Psalm 118: 14-24 (Response 2)	839 UMH AM
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON	Colossians 3: 1-4 (NRSVUE)	AM
*HYMN	In Christ Alone	3105 W&S
THE EASTER STORY	Mark 16: 1-8 (NRSVUE)	AM
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks Be to God.		
SERMON	"Easter People"	Rev. L. Dore

Response to the Word

ANTHEM	You Raise Me Up Rolf Lovland & Brendan Graham, Arr. Tome Fete	Chancel Choir
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MORNING PRAYER

P: On this Easter Day, we pause to give thanks to God for the Easter Promise and hope we have in the resurrected One – Christ Jesus, our Lord. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all the people according to their needs. Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies.

(A moment of silent prayer.)

P: God of power and majesty, with the rising of the sun you have raised Jesus Christ and delivered him and us from death's destruction. We praise you on this holy day for all your gifts of new life.

C: We thank you for all victories over sin and evil in our lives...for loyalty and love of friends and family...for the newborn, and those now in your eternal home...for the renewal of nature we see and smell all around us...for the continuing witness of the church of Christ.

P: God of eternity, we bring to you our prayers for this world in need of resurrection.

C: Especially we pray for our nation and its leaders...we pray for nations and peoples in strife...for the poor and impoverished...Lord, in your mercy grant hope, give to all joys of your salvation through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

JOYFUL GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY	Jesus Paid It All Arr. Tracey Craig McKibben	AE
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*DOXOLOGY		94 UMH
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Send Forth to Serve

*HYMN	Christ Is Alive	318 UMH
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*SENDING FORTH

P: Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in the power of the risen Christ to work, live, love and serve.

C: We go in peace, for Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Lyra Dividica, John Wesley

AE

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The Psalter today is Psalm 118: 14-24 on page 839 in the United Methodist Hymnal. We will listen to response 2 as it is played and then we and then we will sing together each time the red R appears.

Response 2: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice, let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad.

R

The Lord is my strength and my power; the Lord has become my salvation

There are joyous songs of victory in the tent of the righteous:

The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, the right hand of the Lord is exalted,

the fight hand of the Lord does valiantly!"

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has chastened me sorely, but has not given me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the Gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. R

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. R

Today's New Testament Lesson is from Colossians 3: 1-4 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

3 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

This is the Easter Story as written in Mark 16: 1-8 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.