# SERVICE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

# Easter Sunrise Service — April 9, 2023

## **Order of Worship**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader:	Christ is Risen!
All:	Christ is Risen indeed!
Leader:	The tomb is now empty and Jesus, our Savior is alive!
All:	The air is fresh with new beginnings and possibilities, please awaken our spirits O, Lord!
Leader:	Remind us that You came that we may have abundant life in You.
All:	O God, fill us with Your Resurrection Power and Spirit! Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Amen.

<b>Hymn of Praise</b>
-----------------------

### **Easter Litany of Gathering**

Leader:	Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all
	its beauty and terror; you gave birth to all that we know.

- All: Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a cradle announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us.
- Leader: Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious politicians, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: you shouldered and suffered the cross.
- All: Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and destroyed you.
- Leader: This morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your love for us; so we pray,
- All: Lord, bring new life, where we are worn and tired; new love, where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness, where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and give us the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit, where we are prisoners of ourselves. In the power and the assurance of the resurrection of our Lord, we pray. Amen.

### **Morning Prayer**

### 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.

Gospel Lesson	
---------------	--

1 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, 6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' 8 Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

### An Affirmation of Faith

Leader: All:	We believe in resurrection— mysterious, beyond our understanding, and yet, like tulips and daffodils after the snow: real.
Leader:	We believe in Easter morning—
All:	in the promise of a God who would roll back every stone to return to us.
Leader:	We believe in Jesus—
All:	who calls us by name and asks, "Who are you looking for?"
Leader:	So we look—
All:	for justice, for mercy, for God in our midst.
Leader:	And as we look, we sing, "Alleluia!" Christ is risen!
All:	Christ is Risen Indeed!

### **Benediction**