

Order of worship

April 8, 2018

First Sunday after Easter

10:00 am

MORNING MEDITATION-(prior to this morning's service, please be in silent prayer / meditation)

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Matthew 5:7-8

PRELUDE

OPENING WORDS

Joyce Monska

***CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us gather and welcome this new day. Let us turn to God and worship in Spirit and in Truth.

People: As we seek God's wisdom, may we find peace in our hearts. May we discover and absorb in wondrous awe; what God has done for us.

Leader: Through the gift of the Resurrection help us to be called to a life in Christ; love one another!

People: Let us rise and celebrate the love of God among us. Let us sing with joy, for God's love knows no bounds.

***OPENING HYMN "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" UMH # 315

INVOCATION

Joyce Monska

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, you appeared to terrified disciples in your risen glory.

People: Come into our presence now, O Lord. Enter our lives with the power of Easter life.

Leader: Quicken our imaginations to worship joyfully, for we are your disciples too.

People: Gladden our hearts. Fill us with your love. Let us praise your name.

Leader: Open our hands to faithfully serve you and those around us. May we become witnesses to the Resurrection and walk the path of Christ in our daily lives.

People: O God, let the Holy Spirit of Christ enter our lives. Let your grace transform us into living and loving Christians.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [in Unison]

Rev. David F. Hurst

God of mercy, we confess before you and each other that we have been unfaithful to you. We lack love for our neighbors, we waste opportunities to do good, and we look the other way when you cry out to us in the suffering of our brothers and sisters in need. We are sincerely sorry for our sins, both those we commit deliberately and those we allow to overtake us. We ask forgiveness and pray for strength that we may follow in your way and love all your people with that perfect love that casts out all fear; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of your Son, who died for our sins. Strengthen us, to follow your teachings through the love and blessing of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

Eduardo and children

Psalter Reading: Psalm 133 (UMHymnal pg. 850)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Carolyn Burrows

Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer

***Response "Glory Be to the Father"

"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"

Scripture Reading:

Carolyn Burrows

First Lesson John 20:10-31 (chair Bible NT pg 114)

***Hymn of Preparation: "O, How I Love Jesus"

UMH # 170

Second Lesson: 1John 1:1-2.2 (chair Bible NT pg 238-239)

Rev. David F. Hurst

Sermon "Love One Another!"

Rev. David F. Hurst

Ministry of Giving

***Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts, Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Prayer of Dedication

***PARTING HYMN: "Standing on the Promises"

UMH # 374

(please be seated after singing of this hymn)

BENEDICTION

Leader: "Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

People: Let us go forth; confident and free. May we open our hands to the poor, the confused and those who search meaning in darker places. May we live Christ's presence and share the good news by example and through kindness.

POSTLUDE

A Special Thank You

Thelma Waterman sends the following message to all her CUMC friends: "Thank you so much for the beautiful Easter flowers and candy; also thank you so much for your monetary gift. I really appreciate your thoughts! I really appreciate listening to the weekly sermons and when Rev. Hurst visits."

Altar Flowers are given this morning by Lois Bailey in memory of Anthony Gutowski

Weekly Meetings / Announcements- Week of April 8th

Today, Sunday, April 8th - Bible Study - Pastor's Office 11:30am

Today, Sunday, April 8th - Celebration of our April Birthdays (cake after worship)

Bea Phillips, BethAnn Phillips, Jonathan Cooper, Ed Kukucka & Sue Grala

Today, Sunday, April 8th - Lay Reader's Mtg. 11:30am

1st fl Sunday School Room

Saturday, April 14th Unbirthday Party for Harlee and Nana Bea Phillips 1 - 3pm

RSVP to Beth (ASAP) 413-523-2456

Weekly Meetings / Announcements - Week of April 15th

Today, Sunday, April 15th - We welcome Dot Lambert to the Pulpit this morning

(Rev. Hurst is on vacation this week)

There will be no Bible Study this morning

Monday, April 16th - Cot Shelter

Thursday, April 19th - Choir Rehearsal 6:15pm

Saturday, April 21st - UMW District Meeting - 9am - 2pm - Fellowship Hall

(see insert)

Deadline date for notices for the May / June Newsletter is Sunday, April 22nd.

Please email items for meeting dates, events, committee updates, family info updates, etc, to: christnorthampton@gmail.com. Thank you, Pam

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CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

**SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00am**



Rev. David F. Hurst, Pastor
Music Director, Pam Kukucka

*"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to fulfill God's will
for the transformation of the world through spiritual growth, education,
worship and fellowship. We express our faith through others."
We welcome you to join us in this journey!*