

Solomons United Methodist Church

April 16, 2017

# Easter Sunday He Is Risen!



# THE GATHERING

Welcome

\*Lighting of Christ Candle

*Rev. Dottie Yunger*

Opening Prayer

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Almighty God,

Through your only Son you overcame death  
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life.

Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection,

by the renewing of your Spirit,

arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness;

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Gospel Lesson: John 20:1-18

Sermon

*Rev. Dottie Yunger*

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

When our faith stands at the grave, grieving  
for a stone that's rolled away, forgive us.

When our faith is short of understanding  
though the truth is there to see, forgive us.

When our faith, beset by doubt, sees  
no further than an empty tomb today, forgive us.

Bring to mind the cry of Mary, 'I have seen the Lord!  
and grant us faith to believe!

*~ written by John Birch, and posted on Faith and Worship.*

*\*Please stand, as you are able.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Friends, let us come out of the darkness and join together in the light of God's love. You are invited to this table of life as we join with each other and seek communion with God.

God is with you!

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our Creator.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you our thanks and praise, O God! You created the world by speaking life into being. You placed within us and within each plant and animal of your creation amazing abilities to form and nurture new life, so that your creation might be renewed, reborn, season by season, child by child.

You covenanted with your people and gave them Law that showed the way of Life—a path of peace, justice, mercy, reverence, love.

You provided wise men and women as judges for your people to show them the path to Life.

You called forth prophets who dared to speak the truth of Life to worldly powers that promoted death.

You sent Jesus, your Son, to walk in the way of Life—that we might follow. He suffered and died because of his refusal to participate in the death-dealing violence of the world. He rose again in victory because the powers of death cannot overcome the Divine power of Life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of Life, and holy is Jesus Christ, your Son, the resurrected One.

You sent your only-begotten, in whom your fullness dwells,  
to be for us the way, the truth, and the life.

Revealing your love, radiating your life, Jesus taught those who listened to him,

It is as the renewed, redeemed, enlivened people of God that we gather this morning and remember together that . . .

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Longing to experience and share the fullness of Life that you offer, we take these gifts that you have given us, this bread and this cup, and celebrate with joy the eternal Life offered to us through Jesus Christ.

Accept our praise and thanksgiving,  
accept our lives as holy offerings to you,  
that in losing our life we might find true Life  
and proclaim the Resurrected Christ who offers life to all.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who seek to follow in his life-giving way, that we may further your reign of peace and justice in every place. In the eating of this bread, as Christ's body, and in the sharing of this cup, as Christ's blood, we invite your life to fill us; we invite your Spirit to lead us ever more faithfully to be the body of Christ in the world. All glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. Amen.

As we prepare to eat the meal, let us share together the proclamation of our faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*Adapted by Joanna Harader from Spacious Faith*

## **Communion**

*\*\*Communion is open to everyone in attendance. Take a piece of bread and dip it into the juice provided for you. We offer gluten-free communion, please let us know when you come forward.*

## **Benediction**

*From Christ the Lord is Risen Today  
Responses in Unison: Alleluia!*

**If you have an offering today, kindly leave it on the table as you depart.**



## Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heave  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

### *Refrain:*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all,  
wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all  
in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe  
And the pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John -  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.

### *Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people  
Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high,  
And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.

### *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black -  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.

### *Refrain*

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.

### *Refrain*

## He Lives

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world  
today;  
I know that He is living whatever men 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.

### Refrain:

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,  
Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,  
And tho' my heart grows weary I never will  
despair;  
I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy  
blast,  
The day of His appearing will come at last.

### Refrain

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 loving, so good and kind.

### Refrain



## Gospel Lesson: John 20:1-18

### The Resurrection of Jesus

20 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. 2 So 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." 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

### Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12 and 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. 13 They 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." 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus 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." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" [which means Teacher]. 17 Jesus 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.'" 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.