



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

April 11, 2021
2nd Sunday of Easter

*Our Vision is to Know, to Live
and to Share the Love of Jesus Christ.*

Livestream Worship – 10:00am

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

Barbara Brown Taylor in “Holy Envy: Finding the Faith of God in Others”

How wonderful of [Jesus] to come back undercover, so that even the people who knew him best had to look, then look again, before they got the crawly feeling that they had seen him somewhere before.

PRELUDE

The Day of Resurrection
Ahyoung Son, organ

H. T. Smart

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Give praise for God’s mighty deeds!

Give praise for God’s resurrecting power!

Let us walk in the light of Christ’s love.

Let us live in the light of Christ’s teachings and healing mercies.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

God of the resurrection, you open the tomb and invite us to sing and dance in the new life you give us. In Jesus Christ, whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection, touch our wounds that they may be transformed into channels of healing for others. Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power to forgive so that all may have new life. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Thine Be the Glory

UMH 308

UMC Discipleship Ministries Virtual Choir

Arranged by Rev. Jared Wilson, Senior Associate Pastor and Director of
The Music & Arts Academy at Madison Street UMC in Clarksville, Tennessee. Used with permission.

Verse 1

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.

Verse 2

Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. **(Refrain)** *(continues on next page)*

Verse 3

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *(Refrain)*

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31

Karol Brumit

⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

"More Stories to Tell"

Pastor Heather

SPECIAL MUSIC

Open Our Eyes

B. Cull

Dennis & Paula Castiglia and Chris & Heather Hisey, vocals

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SERMON

"The Saga Continues"

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *You are invited to pray in the version and language of your heart.*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Because He Lives

UMH 364

Verse 1

God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;
he came to love, heal and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

(continues on next page)

Refrain

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
because he lives, all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

Verse 2

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
and feel the pride and joy he gives;
but greater still the calm assurance,
this child can face uncertain days because he lives. ***(Refrain)***

Verse 3

And then one day, I'll cross that river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns. ***(Refrain)***

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BENEDICTION & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SUNG BENEDICTION

Peace I Leave with You

Arr. G. Weigle

POSTLUDE

Trust and Obey
Ahyoung Son, organ

D. B. Towner

The ministry of the church is ongoing during these days. Your gifts, tithes and offerings continue to allow us to "be the church." Checks may be sent to the church office or given online through our website. Your generosity is a blessing. Thank you.



Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:
The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Faith We Sing,
Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House
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Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1
Nancy Townley, MinistryMatters.com; UMCDiscipleship.org



WELCOME! We joyfully welcome all visitors to our worship service this morning. You are welcome to this community of faith by participating in worship or any activities. Check the website – WestportUMC.org – or contact the church office to receive email updates.

Our Mission is:
To Know the love of Jesus in personal ways through worship, prayer and study
To Live the love of Jesus through acts of compassion, gentleness and justice
To Share the love of Jesus in our homes, our community and the world
To Welcome all of God's children regardless of age, race, ability,
sexual or gender orientation, and economic circumstance.



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON
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OUR MINISTERS
EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION
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