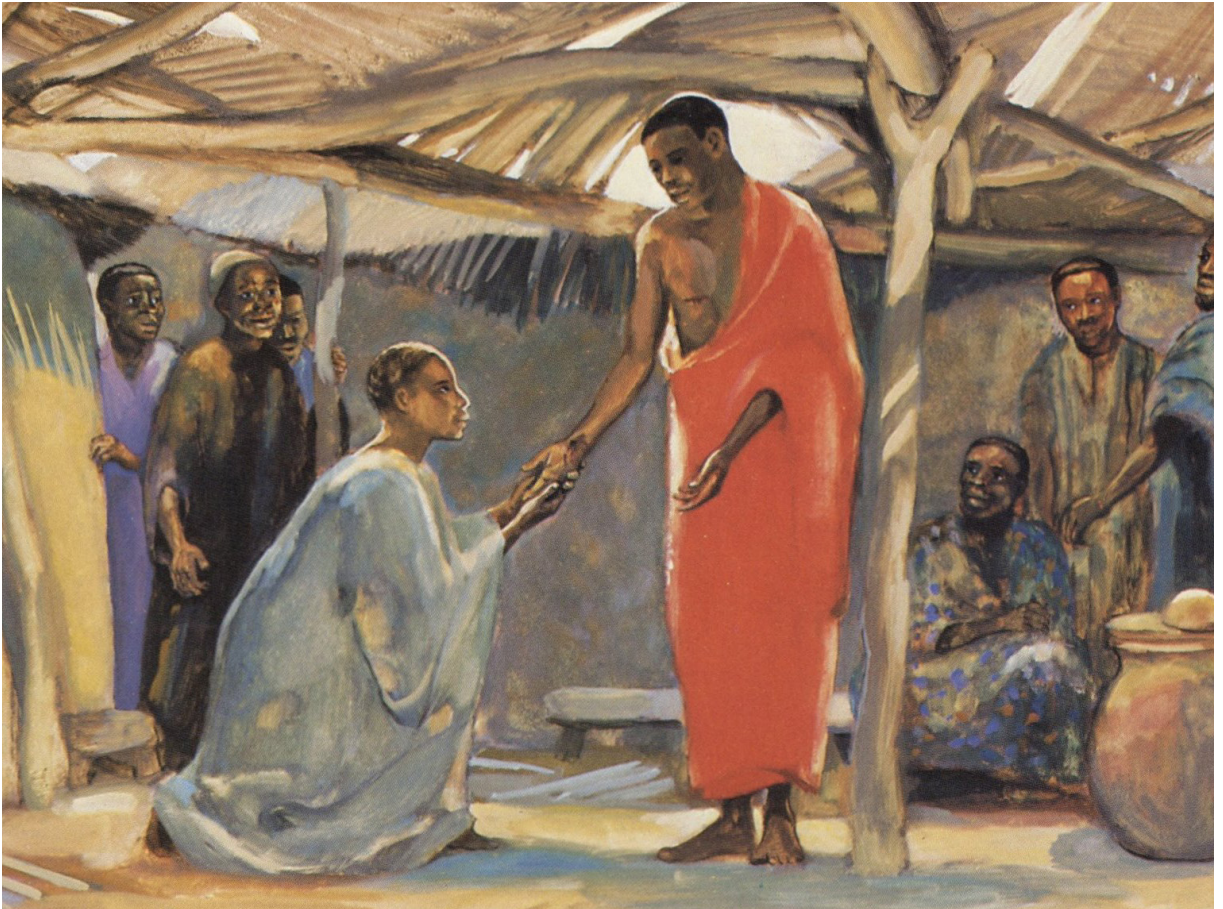




**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE*



**APRIL 28TH, 2019**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

# Welcome

*Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary.*

## **Children in Worship**

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

## **Sunday School**

Preschool through adult Sunday morning learning is offered during the 9 o'clock hour in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level. Toaster items & pastry are available before Sunday school and adult forum.

## **Sunday Brunch**

Please join us for fellowship after worship in the Son Cafe. Today's menu is: pulled pork or ham sliders with condiments, coleslaw, fruit salad, chips and cookies.

## **Interested in Membership?**

Contact Pastor Craig, call (309)-762-0787 or email [craig@fccmoline.org](mailto:craig@fccmoline.org).

**Wi-Fi Password** Welcome!

## **Resources**

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

## **Open and Affirming**

We are an ONA church, please visit [fccmoline.org/ona](http://fccmoline.org/ona) for more information.

## **Getting connected**

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

**Cover Art** Jesus appears to Thomas, JESUS MAFA (1973)

*Today*  
from the life  
of the church

## **Psalm 150**

You can read Hebrew, sorta. Below is Psalm 150, in Hebrew and transliterated into Roman letters. It is 13 lines long. 12 of the 13 lines begin "Halelujah." Praised be God. I would supposed that is why it is selected for this Sunday of Easter where the theme is praising God, singing our Alleluias.

Haleluyah.

Hal'lu el b'kodsho,

Hal'luhu birkia uzo

Hal'luhu bigvurotav,

Hal'luhu k'rov gud'lo

Hal'luhu b'teika shofar,

Hal'luhu b'nevel v'chinor.

Hal'luhu b'tof umachol.

Hal'luhu b'minim v'ugav

Hal'luhu b'tziltzelei shama,

Hal'luhu b'tziltzelei tru'ah

Kol han'shama t'halel yah.

Haleluyah

*Pastor Michael*

# *Gathering of God's People*

## **PRELUDE**

*To a Wild Rose - MacDowell*

## **GREETING AND WELCOME**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed; Alleluia!**

Praise be to God. Praise God is God's own sanctuary.

**Praise God in the mighty firmament!**

Let everything that breathes praise God!

**Praise God! Alleluia!**

## **\*OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, we have celebrated with joy the festival of Jesus' resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our risen Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

## **\*OPENING HYMN**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today!*  
*(Music on the next page)*

*\* Indicates when to stand in body or spirit*

## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The treble staff contains the vocal melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

5

All on earth with an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

9

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

The third system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

13

Sing, O heav'ns; and, earth, re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!

The fourth system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

## \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

...To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen**

## \*SONG OF PRAISE

*Gloria*

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### *Proclaiming the Good News*

## SCRIPTURE

ACTS 5:27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 150

Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;

**praise God in the mighty firmament!**

Praise God for mighty acts;

**praise God for exceeding greatness!**

Praise God with trumpet sound;

**praise God with lyre and harp!**

Praise God with tambourine and dance;

**praise God with strings and pipe!**

Praise God with resounding cymbals;

**praise God with loud clanging cymbals!**

Let everything that has breathe

**praise the Lord! Hallelujah!**

## SCRIPTURE

REVELATION 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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."

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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 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."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Michael Swartz

**\*HYMN**

*O Sons and Daughters Let us Sing  
(Music on the next page)*

## O Sons and Daughters Let us Sing



1 O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing with  
Solo 2 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; a -  
3 When Thom - as first the ti - dings heard, how  
Solo 4 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see; and

heaven - ly hosts to Christ our King; to - day the grave has  
mong them came their Lord most dear, and said, "My peace be  
they had seen the ris - en Lord, he doubt - ed the dis -  
look up - on my hands, my feet; not faith - less, but be -

lost its sting!  
with you here."  
ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
liev - ing be."

5 No longer Thomas then denied;  
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 How blest are they who have not seen,  
and yet whose faith has constant been,  
for they eternal life shall win.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!



# *Responding to the Good News*

## **PASTORAL 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

### **INVITATION**

### **OFFERTORY**

“Barcarolle” from *The Tales of Hoffmann* - Offenbach

## **\*DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

# *Sending in Mission*

## **\*HYMN OF SENDING**

*Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*  
(Music on next page)

## **\*BENEDICTION**

## **\*POSTLUDE**

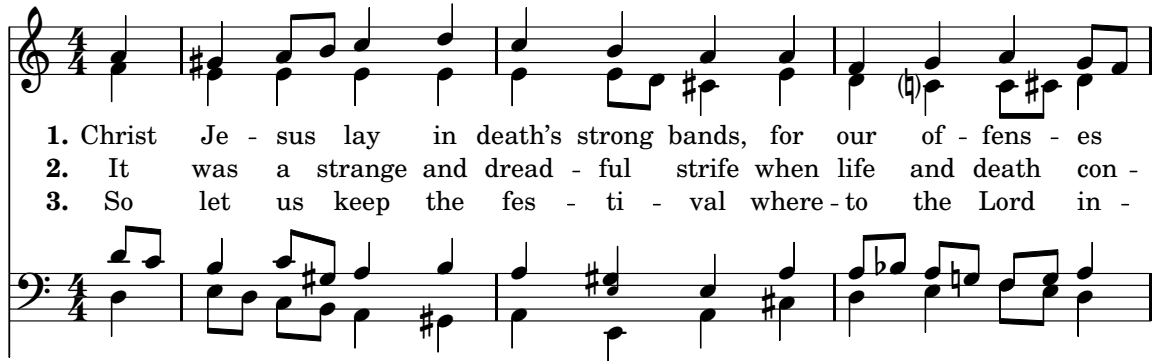
*Adoration* - Wyrzten



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Louis C. Arp, Jr.*

*Given by: Molly and Mike Newell*

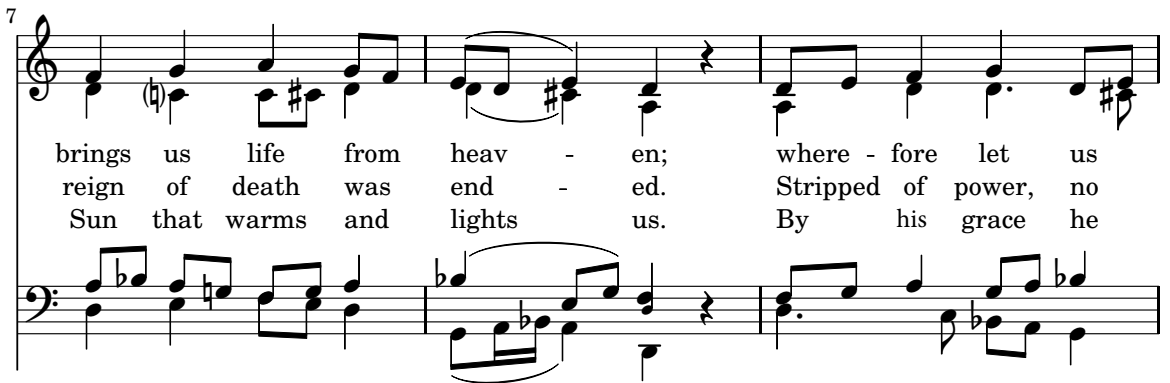
## Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands



1. Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands, for our of - fens - es  
2. It was a strange and dread - ful strife when life and death con -  
3. So let us keep the fes - ti - val where - to the Lord in -



giv - en; but now at God's right hand he stands, and  
tend - ed; the vic - to - ry re - mained with life; the  
vites us; Christ is him - self the joy of all, the



brings us life from heav - en; where - fore let us  
reign of death was end - ed. Stripped of power, no  
Sun that warms and lights us. By his grace he

10

joy - ful be, and sing to God right thank - ful - ly loud  
 more it reigns, an emp - ty form a - lone re - mains; death's  
 doth im - part e - ter - nal sun - shine to the heart; the

13

songs of Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sting is lost for - ev - er! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 night of sin is end - ed!

## **SERVING TODAY**

### *Ushers*

Grace/McCooley Family

### *Usher Guides*

Dixie Duckett

### *North Door Greeters*

Jack Reimers

Kathy Reimers

### *Lector*

Josh Dyer

### *Liturgist*

Carol Freeman

### *Sound Tech*

Bill Henning

### *Sub Organist/Pianist*

Patrick Downing

## **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF**

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