



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE LEADER



APRIL 26TH, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome

Wi-Fi Password Welcome!

Please silence your cell phones, but please check-in with our Church App and via social media.

For Parents and Children

Children and youth activities are currently cancelled. Contact Becca@fccmoline.org for how families are staying connected!

FCC Live

Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook Live and YouTube Live! Search for FCCMoline to connect with us, click like and subscribe to stay up to date!

Sunday Brunch

Sunday Brunch is currently cancelled.

Interested in Membership?

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

Cover Art

Martyrs of Uganda,
Emmaus House, Kampala Uganda

Open and Affirming: fccmoline.org/ona

We are an ONA church, covenanting with all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender expression or identity. All people are welcome to participate fully in the life of the church, including the rites, sacraments, and leadership of the congregation.

Today from the life of the church

Faith and love must always be distinguished in such a way that faith concerns the *person* while love concerns the *works*. Faith purges out sin and makes the person well-pleasing to God and righteous before him. But when the person has become pleasing and righteous, then the Holy Spirit and love are given him, so that the person does the good willingly and joyfully. So faith remains always the *actor* and love remains the *deed*. So all Christian teaching, works, and life are comprehended, briefly and clearly, in the two elements, faith and love. Through them the person is placed between God and man as the means by which that which is received from above is given out again below. It is like a funnel through which the fountain of God's goodness is to flow ceaselessly to other people.... Through faith we are the children of God and heirs of all God's spiritual blessings. But gods we are through love which makes us benevolent to the neighbor, because God's nature is nothing other than pure benevolence, and friendliness, and fidelity, which daily pours out its gifts in abundance.

Morphologie des Luthertums,
translated by Martin Heineken

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

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**

Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

Our fears and our prejudices blind us.

Open your eyes this day to see the goodness of the Lord.

Open our hearts, gracious God, to receive your blessings.

For Christ is risen!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Loving God, come and speak to our hearts today. May we, like those on the Emmaus Road, find your words burning with hope in our lives. Strengthen us and give us courage for the journey ahead. For we pray in Christ's Name. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright
(Music on the next page)

** Indicates when to stand in body or spirit*

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major, indicated by two sharps (F# and C#). The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with chords and single notes.

3

sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our

The second system of music continues from the first. It also consists of two staves in treble and bass clefs, maintaining the D major key signature. The melody in the upper staff continues with a mix of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass line provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

6

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.

The third system of music concludes the piece. It features two staves in treble and bass clefs, still in D major. The upper staff ends with a double bar line, and the lower staff also concludes with a double bar line. The overall mood is joyful and celebratory.

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood
you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel
from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.
...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

Lord, you opened the meaning of the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and set their hearts ablaze. By the power of your Spirit kindle our hearts as we hear your word proclaimed, that we may receive you with joy. Amen.

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 2:14, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116: 1-4, 12-19

I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,
for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.
whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me;
the anguish of the grace came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things God has done for me?

I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God’s people.

Precious in your sight, O Lord,
is the death of your servants.

O Lord, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord.
in the presence of all God’s people,
in the courts of the Lord’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

SCRIPTURE

1 PETER 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us.

They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

I Come With Joy
(Music on the next page)

I Come With Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

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

Bountiful are God's gifts to us. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service.

OFFERTORY

***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**

May the grace of Jesus Christ our risen Lord, the love of God who raised him from the dead, and the power of the Holy Spirit who fills the world with new life bless and keep you. Alleluia!

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

Christ Is Alive!
(Music on the next page)

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

- by Alan Guss

Let Him be the good you come to, let this be the time and place.
When you need Him, He will be here; take shelter, take shelter.

*Let Him be the calm and peaceful, let Him be the balm of days.
Spirit in us, Spirit of us, take shelter, take shelter.

Daily we face all the world's disarray,
and forget we have peace for the asking.
Hatred stirs up strife, love covers all offenses; seek shelter.

**repeat text for final refrain*

***BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

*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 Is Alive!

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris-tians sing. The cross stands
2 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
3 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

6

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with prais - es
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the
this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and o - cean

12

ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

SERVING TODAY

Musicians

Mason Moss

Maureen Holmes

Lector

Liturgist

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Gathered to Share God's Love