

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

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www.cherawfirstumc.org



THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

APRIL 9, 2023

EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE SERVICE

LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Debra

GREETING¹

Pastor Debra

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ our Lord. My Brothers and sisters in Christ; on this most holy morning in which Jesus the Christ passed over from death to life, we gather as the church to celebrate. This is the Passover of the Christ in which we share in Christ's victory over death. Let reflect on these things as the light of Christ returns to the world.

CALL TO WORSHIP²

L: Do Not Weep! Do not Mourn! There is great good news today!

C: Christ the Lord is risen today!

L: Put away your garments of mourning and let God's love flood into your lives.

C: Christ the Lord is risen today!

L: No more do we have to fear the darkness; it has been overcome by God's light. Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER³

God of Life, through Jesus Christ you have bestowed upon the world the light of life. Sanctify us and grant that our hearts and minds may also be kindled with holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, that we may attain to the feast of everlasting light. **AMEN.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

*GLORIA PATRI NO. 70

MEINEKE

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.

ANTHEM

"This Is The Day"

NATALIE SLEETHE

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heav - en in
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing
 3. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es;
 here be - low. For our Lord em - pow - ered us to
 rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

heav - en - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ia!
 tri - umph o - ver ev - ery foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 to our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
 Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - tory now we go.
 Al - le - lu - ia! See the power of heav - en - ly throngs.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth the song be - gin!

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is there - in!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness blend,

our Christ hath brought us o - ver, with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:34-43; Luke 24:1-12

SERMON

"Easter Is All about a Four Letter Word"

Pastor Debra

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb;
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.
 lov - ing - ly he greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom.
 Life is naught with - out thee; aid us in our strife.

An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
 Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,
 Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love;

kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.
 for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.
 bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

Refrain

Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Debra

Pastor: The tomb is empty, Christ has risen. As you journey in faith, may your life be full, your love be abundant, and your hope be eternal. Live this day and always for Christ Jesus because the Risen Christ lives in you.

All: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Amen!

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.

¹United Methodist Book of Worship, The United Methodist Publishing House, 1992, pg. 371

² <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/3683>

³ United Methodist Book of Worship, The United Methodist Publishing House, 1992, pg. 371

⁴ Excerpted from *Worship in the Garden: Services for Outdoor Worship* by J. Wayne Pratt. ©2013 Abingdon Press. Used with permission.

** If you are able, please stand.*

OUR PRAYER LIST – Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT’s, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jim Bennett, Scott Tomberlin, Mary Snookie Lomas, Shep Straughn, Betty Thraikill, Tony Thraikill, Bill Eutsler, Jr., Mary Burr, Jody Reid, Craig Norton, Martha Griggs, Steve Humphries, Katie Chapman, Thomas McKinnon, Zenda Rushing, Cale Yarborough, Jan Brigman, Meredith Rogers Creech, Ray Mathews, Jane Board, Jean Davis, and James Thurman . **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The United Women in Faith will meet April 11th at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be putting together the kits for DSS. We have enough bags but still need the items for the kits.

Joy Club will meet April 20th at 12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please R.S.V.P. to Renie Seel at 843-344-1841 by Monday April 17th.

The Finance Committee will meet at 5:00 p.m. April 23, 2023, in the Fred Harris Sunday School Classroom.

The Church Council will meet April 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fred Harris Sunday School Classroom.



The United Women in Faith are planning to resume their Mats for the Homeless Project. If you would like to participate in making mats, please call the church office at 843-537-7002, or Martha Starling at 843-910-4789 or Judy Dixon at 843-439-2579. If you are interested in cutting the bags for the mats, instructions will be available on the table outside of the Fellowship Hall or by email from Judy Dixon medtechduo@shnext.com. Some time ago, we took our first mat to the Cheraw Police Department. A homeless man was there and accepted the mat with great appreciation. We hope to be able to make more mats for the Glory of God and help people in need.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHERAW STAFF

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