

Welcome!

March 31st, 2024

Easter Sunday

“Finishing Mark’s story, God’s story, is no simple thing. If it were, those closest to Jesus surely would have managed a way to conclude it. Fear overwhelmed them; fear will stalk you. But you mustn’t ever believe that a faithful person is a fearless person. Faith for Mark is not being without fear; it is refusing to let fear silence you and the gospel message....”

--Brian K. Blount and Gary W. Charles, *Preaching Mark in Two Voices*

We Gather to Worship

Prelude *The Nails in His Hands*

Procession of the Palms

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

One: The tomb is dark but empty

Many: The one you are looking for has overcome the darkness

One: The stone has been rolled away

Many: The one you are looking for has overcome death

One: The burial clothes are put aside

Many: The one you are looking for is alive!

One: Christ is Risen!

Many: Christ is Risen Indeed!

All: Let us worship our Risen Savior!

Hymn: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (Red Hymnal, p. 277, vv. 1-4)

We Offer Our Praise and Prayer

Morning Psalm: 118:1-2, 22-25, 29

Hymn: “Because He Lives” (See insert)

Pastoral prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

We Attend to the Word

A Gift of Music: *Ain’t No Grave*

Sermon: “A Hopeful Ending” Dr. Bill Ireland
Mark 16:1-8

***Hymn: “I Stand Amazed in the Presence” (See insert)**

Postlude *Kyrie (Lord Have Mercy)*

***The Irish Blessing**

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind blow at your bag.

May the sun shine warmly on your face,

May the rain fall softly on your field.

And until we meet again,

Til’ we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

We welcome Ethan and Eli Ferguson as our guest musicians today.

OUR CHURCH

The Norris Religious Fellowship is an interdenominational community church, which has grown from the desire of people with varied religious backgrounds to share experiences and to search together for spiritual enrichment.

Its idea is not to bind by creed but to weld through love of God and love of fellow man. In the spirit of the earliest Christian church it has sought to serve God through serving the wide town and country community of which it is a part.

It seeks to provide opportunity for spiritual growth through a deeper appreciation of the Christian heritage and an understanding of the insights of the world's great religious faiths. Its membership is open to all.

In the spirit of Jesus, our church continues to build, hoping that those who join with us will find their burdens shared and their joys multiplied.

Norris Religious Fellowship

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Member: International Council of Community Churches,
Churches Uniting in Christ

NORRIS RELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP

AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

NORRIS, TENNESSEE



Easter Service
Sunday, March 31st, 2024

Dr. Bill Ireland