



280 E Stillwater  
Fallon NV 89406

775.423.4714

[www.epworthfallon.org](http://www.epworthfallon.org)

Rev Dawn Blundell  
Senior Pastor

[pastor@eumcfallon.org](mailto:pastor@eumcfallon.org)

775.671.5553

Laura Butcher  
Administrative Ministries

Grant Mills  
Church Council Chair

Steve Russell  
Board of Trustees

Doug Coval &  
Kathy Fraker  
Lay Leaders

APRIL 6, 2021

Happy Eastertide, church family and friends!

Ya know, for my entire life I have always said that fall is my favorite season. Probably I will say it again in a few months, knowing me. And I do love it, as the world kind of starts winding down for winter sleep, and the colors change, and the weather gets cooler. I love all the sounds and smells and meaning of it. But I gotta tell ya, now that I have – in an extremely amateur, faltering way – taken up gardening, spring is giving fall a run for its money.

Seeing my 3 year old dwarf peach tree absolutely COVERED with pink blossoms makes me ridiculously happy. Hoping my first attempt at compost works out, and excited to learn how to do it well. Looking forward to planting new kinds of things, and being careful not to do my spring cleanup too early lest all the good pollinators lose their winter sleeping habitat. Seeing the earth start to wake up at church and at home, with little bits of green popping up all over the place promising fresh flowers. It's all just so sweet and good.

I find a lot of deep spiritual meaning in the fall season, as human beings probably have from the beginning of time. While we as a species look toward winter and depend on the fall harvest to get us through, there is tremendous gratitude and hope and trust in God that infuses the season. In the spring, it's much more like awe. Happy surprises everywhere. The fulfillment of the hopes we have held onto through the winter. Evidence of new life around every corner, like answers to prayer. It makes lines from the Song of Solomon echo in my mind, about the rains being over and the flowers appearing, and all the God-loving hope expressed in that...and that passage from Lamentations 3:22 about God's mercies being constantly renewed.

One of my favorite songs to sing at an Easter sunrise service is "Morning Has Broken." Though Cat Stevens made it popular 50 years ago or so, it was actually written as a Christian children's hymn in 1931 by famed children's author Eleanor Farjeon as "a song to give thanks for each day." It is set to a beautiful Scottish tune first published some 50 years before that.

Morning has broken, like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from Heaven  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day.

**“My beloved  
speaks and says  
to me:  
“Arise, my love,  
my fair one,  
and come away;  
for now the winter  
is past, the rain is  
over and gone.  
The flowers  
appear on the  
earth; the time of  
singing has come,  
and the voice of  
the turtledove is  
heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts  
forth its figs,  
and the vines are  
in blossom; they  
give forth  
fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my  
fair one, and  
come away.”**

*Song of Songs, 2:10-13*

This is all just about flowers and rain and bees, and how sweet and good and even awe-inspiring all of that is. But 2000 years ago, a small group of women and men were just waking up to the impossible fact that Jesus had been raised from the dead. It changed absolutely everything. Everyday miracles of new life are astounding if we are paying attention, but this was – this IS – something else entirely.

It means everything God has been trying to tell us is true. Not just metaphorically true, religious-scholar-debate true...but literally, physically, right-here-in-real-life true.

For God so loved the world that He gave the Son, so that whoever believes him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save it.

What if we lived like we believed it?

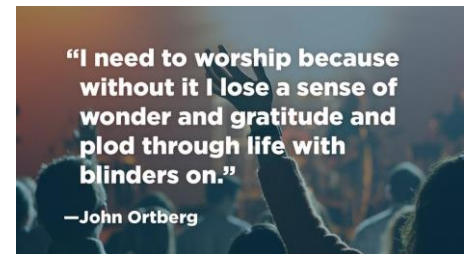
Christ is risen, beloved. He is risen indeed!

*Pastor Dawn*

## *Worship Any and Everywhere!*

### **Living the Resurrection**

We are blessed to hear a sermon from our District Superintendent Rev Dr Blake Busick this Sunday! We love when he is able to bring us the message now and then. He will join us by video during worship, and the rest of worship will be filled with prayer, music, scripture, and the special joy of the Body of Christ worshipping together. Hope to see you there! If you will be worshipping from home, you can also find us on KVLV at 9:30 as always, and on Facebook Live (if the Facebook gremlins permit. It's a frustratingly imperfect technology.) As you prepare your heart for worship, you might like to read and pray with our scriptures for Sunday, John 20:19-31 and Acts 4:32-35.



Last Sunday Zoom fought us, but that issue has been resolved. So please join us for **virtual coffee hour after worship at 10:45am**. If you have never joined us, we hope that you will consider doing so...especially for the sake of those who can't join us in person for worship yet, gathering together in this way is a great gift you can give to yourself and your church family. You will get the link in your email as always; if you prefer to join by phone, here's the number:

**1 669 900 6833**

Meeting ID: **870 1639 8986**

Passcode: **929340**

# News and Fun Stuff

**THANK YOU to Lorri Freeman, our Hero Club director,** and all who donated their time and supplies to make our Easter Egg Hunt such a success! Thanks to you, 60+ kids and their families experienced the warmth of Christian love on Easter weekend. The more things like this that we can do to serve and get to know our community, the better!

## **HERO Club Fundraiser at Ana's Café on April 17!**

Ana's Café is partnering with the HERO Club for an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner fundraiser on April 17 from 4 til 9pm. The meal includes salad, bread and a drink, too, for only \$10.99! Or only \$2.99 for kids under 8 years old. All proceeds go to the HERO Club. Spread the word!

**THANK YOU to all who helped lead, pray, provide music, and create art for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.** It was a Holy Spirit-filled weekend, thanks to your love for God and one another.

## **Grief Class and Support Group Begins Wed, April 7**

A new Grief Class begins Wednesday, April 7 from 5:30-8:00pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, led by Pastor Trudy Erquiaga. We will meet for 8 weeks initially, and longer if we need. Please spread the word to anyone grieving a loss, who might like a supportive community to be with and some tools to help navigate this difficult time.

## **Adult Sunday School begins on Sunday April 11**

Jeanette Strong's Sunday School class meets in the Wolf Center dining room after worship. They will be studying the Parables of Jesus. All are welcome!

## **Al Anon Every Wednesday at 10:00am in the Wolf Center dining room**

A new Al Anon group will meet in the Wolf Center dining room every Wednesday morning beginning April 14. Al Anon is Please call the church office if you have any questions 423-4714.

## **Community Service Day with JustServe on April 17**

Fallon has set aside a special day on April 17 for Community Service Day. Led and organized by JustServe, we are invited to get a group of friends together to serve our community and our friends and neighbors. Let's create a couple of church teams! There are lots of potential projects in the works, from park cleanup to helping nonprofit organizations in town with work they need done, to things we can do to help our individual friends and neighbors. We can look on JustServe.org for ideas, or create projects of our own. Let Pastor Dawn know if you are interested, and we will create a couple of Epworth teams to do some good. She can be reached best by her cell phone, 775-671-5553.



## April Birthdays!

Jim Hertz, 4/1  
Elena Wolf, 4/2  
Kyle Dugan, 4/4  
Dana Endacott, 4/8  
April Butcher, 4/9  
Jake Coval, 4/9  
Katie Jones, 4/12  
Greg Holmes, 4/22  
Megan  
Hockenberry, 4/24  
Ashlee McGarity, 4/24  
Nadine Miller, 4/24  
Michele Berney, 4/27  
Deanna Brown, 4/29  
Wilva Blue, 4/30

## Men's Fellowship Monday Mornings at 6:30am

Join members and friends of Epworth for breakfast, prayer, and conversation about faith and life today. It is a great group of men, supporting and caring for one another in their faith journey. For more info, call Jim Wieboldt at 775-423-3187.

## Painted Rock Path of Easter Joy!

Thank you to everyone who is painting colorful rocks to make our path of Easter joy! We will be laying it in the weeks after Easter Sunday, so keep them coming. The whole beautiful thing will be dedicated to Kelly Wieboldt, too, and all of the Easter hope she shared with so many.

## Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia

### An Easter Sunday message from Bishop Minerva Carcano

Brothers, Sisters, Family, Friends,

Blessed Easter Sunday 2021 to all of you! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Thank you for spending Holy Week with me wondering about the amazing faithful presence of God with us. And here we are together on Easter Sunday! The Gospel According to Mark has been our help as we have wondered. Today is no exception. Hear the word of witness from generation to generation all the way to this Easter Sunday. [Mark 16:1-8]

Alleluia! The mighty good news of our faith! Thanks be to God!

Mark is the right gospel account to read on this Easter Sunday when we find ourselves living in terror and amazement just like our sisters Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of Joseph and Salome. A global pandemic has held us hostage through a second Easter. We have experienced a season of death and dying that seems to have no end. Yet amazement has also been our experience – the sacrificial service of essential workers in every category of life, the courage of those who have been stricken by COVID-19, and the perseverance of communities around the world who have found ways to encourage neighbors, near and far. It is amazing to observe the human spirit at its best. But no greater has been the amazing ways that God has sustained us in our living and in our dying.

I am so grateful for all of you who have persevered in the terror of the year we have lived giving witness to the amazing ways that God does sustain us day by day. Pastors and all clergy, wherever you are serving, thank you for your faithfulness. Lay persons, thank you for the loving and bold ways you have served those who have been afflicted by death, by fear, by loneliness, by hunger, by homelessness, and by the unfortunate increase of racism and racial hatred.

Now on this Easter Sunday find rest and joy in the glorious news that all has been cared for.

- The stones holding back the fullness of life, heavy as they are, have been rolled away by God's grace and power.
- Death cannot hold us back from life, for Jesus has overcome death!
- The way forward has been made clear, an angel of mercy has come to tell us that Jesus our Lord is risen and goes before us.
- All that is needed of us is that we share the good news: Christ is risen! Risen indeed! Alleluia!

God bless you on this Easter Sunday!