*Mountain Spirit Metropolitan Community Church*

*A spiritual community born out of LGBTQIA+ Appalachia*

*“I praise you for I am fearsomely and wonderfully made.”*

*Ps. 139.14*

**Easter Sunday**

April 20, 2025

**Prelude** Paul Wolfe, musician

**Opening Hymn** Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ, the Lord, is risen today Alleluia

Let all Earth and angels say, Alleluia

Raise your voice in triumphs high, Alleluia

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia

Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia

Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia

Christ hath opened Paradise, Alleluia

Soar we now where Christ has lead, Alleluia

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia

Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia

**Invocation**  Agnus Dei Rev. Pressley Sutherland, liturgist

Alleluia, Alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns

Alleluia, Alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns, Alleluia

Holy, Holy are you Lord God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb

You are Holy, Holy, are you Lord God Almighty

Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb. Amen

**All: Come Holy Spirit. Come any way you want. Just come. Amén/Amen**

**Welcoming Communion** Sharilyn S., M.Div,, celebrant, Kris W., Acolyte

C: God is with you. **All: And also with you**

C: Let us open our hearts. **All: We open them to God**

C: Let us give God thanks and praise **All: It is a good and joyful thing to do**

**Santo, santo, santo**

**Mi corazón te adora**

**Mi corazón sabe decir**

**Santo eres tú**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**My heart, my heart adores you**

**My heart knows how to say to you**

**You are holy, God**

**Song: Above All** Rev. Pressley Sutherland, musician

Above all powers, Above all kings

Above all nature, and all created things

Above all wisdom, and works of human hands

You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms, Above all thrones

Above all wonders this world has ever known

Above all wealth and treasures of the earth

There's no way to measure what you're worth

Crucified, laid behind a stone

You lived to die, rejected and alone

Like a rose, trampled on the ground

You took the fall, and thought of me

Above all

**The Gospel Reading Luca/Luke 24:1-12**

Angel P. and Rev. Dr. Joan S. lectors

*(Espanol/Spanish)*

Muy temprano el domingo en la mañana, las mujeres fueron al sepulcro. Llevaban las especias aromáticas que habían preparado. Encontraron que había sido quitada la piedra que tapaba la entrada del sepulcro. Entraron, pero no encontraron el cuerpo del Señor Jesús. Las mujeres no entendían lo que estaba pasando, cuando de repente dos hombres vestidos con ropa muy brillante se aparecieron de pie, junto a ellas. Las mujeres tenían mucho miedo y se postraron rostro en tierra. Los hombres les dijeron:

—¿Por qué están buscando entre los muertos al que está vivo? Jesús no está aquí. Ha resucitado. ¿No recuerdan lo que les dijo en Galilea? Les dijo que el Hijo del hombre debía ser entregado en manos de pecadores, ser crucificado y resucitar al tercer día.

Entonces las mujeres recordaron las palabras de Jesús. Se fueron del sepulcro y les contaron todo a los once apóstoles y a los otros seguidores. Estas mujeres eran María Magdalena, Juana, María la mamá de Santiago, y otras más. Cuando les contaron a los apóstoles lo que había pasado, no les creyeron porque les pareció que era un disparate. Sin embargo, Pedro se levantó y corrió hacia el sepulcro. Se agachó para ver adentro, pero sólo vio la tela con la que habían envuelto el cuerpo. Luego se fue preguntándose qué había pasado. +++++

Palabra de Dios **Te alabamos Dios**

*(English/Ingles)*

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, several women went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body.   While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two figures in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the figures said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Human One must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.    But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. +++++

Let us hear Living Words **Thanks be to God**

**Response Because He Lives** Paul W., musician

1. God sent God’s son, they called Him, Jesus;

He came to love, heal and forgive;

He lived and died to buy my pardon,

An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

(Chorus)

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,*

*Because He lives, all fear is gone;*

*Because I know He holds the future,*

*And life is worth the living,*

*Just because He lives!*

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby,

And feel the pride and joy she brings;

But greater still the calm assurance:

This child can face uncertain days because He Lives! (Chorus)

3. And then one day, I'll cross the river,

I'll fight life's final war with pain;

And then, as death gives way to victory,

I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! (Chorus)

**Sermon The Wildest Story** Rev. Pressley S., pastor

**Community Prayers and Offertory** Amazing Grace Rev. Pressley S., Paul Wolfe, musician

**Our Mother who lives within us, we celebrate your many names.**

 **Your wisdom come, your will be done, unfolding from the depths within us.**

 **Each day you give us all that we need.**

 **You remind us of our strengths, and we embrace them.**

 **You support us in our power, and we act with courage.**

 **For you are the dwelling place within us,**

 **the empowerment around us,**

 **and the celebration among us, now and forevermore. Amen**

Amazing Grace! (how sweet the sound)

That saved a soul like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was bound, but now I’m free.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear,

The hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we first begun.

Amazing Grace! (how sweet the sound)

That saved a soul like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was bound, but now I’m free.

**Announcements and Benediction** Rev. Pressley Sutherland, pastor

 All will be well, and all will be well, and all manner of thing will be well

 All will be well, be well.

 **Go out with peace. Go out with kindness. Go out with Love,**

 **In the name of the Creator, Christ, Comforter, and All that are Wise and Good. Amén/Amen**