

Woodbury United Methodist Church

April 19, 2020
2nd Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Up from the Grave He Arose

R. Lowery

GREETING

Rev. John Thomason

EASTER HYMN

He Lives

A. H. Ackley

**I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and just the time I need him, he's always near.**

Refrain:

**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.**

**In all the word around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last.**

Refrain

**Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your heart and sing
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none other is so loving, so good and kind.**

Refrain

OPENING PRAYER

Rynn Naylor, Liturgist

from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*
based on Acts 2, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1, John 20

God of signs and wonders, breathe new life into us this day, that our spirits may awaken to the joy and the hope of our glorious inheritance through the living Christ. Clear our vision, Holy One, that we may see the promise of Easter in the stirrings of this precious earth and in the life energy flowing through our bodies. Help us find the faith to believe where we have not seen, that others may see, in our living and our loving, the glory of the risen Christ. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

led by Anna and Grace Bower-Richardson

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bridge Over Troubled Waters
Anna and Grace Bower-Richardson

Paul Simon

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rynn Naylor

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by: Rynn Naylor

Lessons for the 2nd Sunday of Easter
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NRSV)

A Living Hope

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him,

“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

The Purpose of This Book

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>You've Got a Friend</i>	Carol King
SERMON	<i>Will Things Ever Be the Same as Before?</i>	Rev. Thomason
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Where Is Love?</i>	Lionel Bart
BENEDICTION		Rev. Thomason
POSTLUDE	<i>Hymn of Promise</i>	Sleeth