**Rectortown United Methodist Church**

April 20th, 2025 6:30 a.m.

*Easter Sunday Sunrise Service*

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***Pastor****: TaeWon Kang*

*3049 Rectortown Road, Marshall, VA* 20115

*Pastor’s Cell Phone:* (470) 728 - 9060
*Pastor’s E-mail:* pastortaewonkang@gmail.com

***Music Director****:* Karen Chase

***Ministers****: every member of the congregation*

Welcome to Rectortown UMC!

*“You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!”*

Mark 16:6 NIV

**\*** *Please Stand As You Are Able and Comfortable*

**PRELUDE** - *let us quiet our minds and hearts.*

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and CELEBRATIONS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Christ has risen!
**People: Christ has risen indeed.**
Leader: Faith, hope, and joy are alive.
**People: A new age is dawning, and death**

**cannot harm us.**Leader: God of all creation, we praise you.
**People: God of resurrection and eternal life,**

**we have gathered in this garden to**

**worship you and celebrate your**

**victory.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Loving God, we gather in the early morning of your Resurrection. We have been mourning and weeping, believing that you have been taken from us. Instead, you meet us in the garden of new life. Here, in this sacred place, we discover that you are alive, that sin and death cannot defeat you. Now, our tears of sorrow turn to tears of joy as we experience your presence among us. Today, we begin to understand that joy comes from grief.**

**You call us to go into the world to share this good news, and because we are not left alone, we can pray your prayer. (*All pray the Lord’s Prayer.*)**

**\* HYMN**

“In the Garden” UMH 314

1. I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses, and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

Refrain: And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

1. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing, and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing.

Refrain: And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

1. I’d stay in the garden with him though the night around me be falling. But he bids me go; thru the voice of woe his voice to me is calling.

Refrain: And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

**\*RESURRECTION STORY READING**

John 20: 1 – 8

1Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2**So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” **3**Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4**The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5**He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6**Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7**and the cloth that had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8**Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed,

**SERMON** “Christ is Risen! Christ is the REASON!”

**CONFESSION IN SILENCE & PROCLAMATION OF PARDON**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty (almighty God ), creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God ), now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BREAKING THE BREAD/ GIVING THE**

**BREAD & CUP**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“Thine Be the Glory” UMH 308 (v.1)

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

**\*DISMISSAL & BLESSING**

**Rectortown United Methodist Church**

Location: 3049 Rectortown Road, Rectortown, VA

Mailing Address: PO Box 301, Rectortown, VA 20140

Email: secretary@rectortownumc.org

 Phone: (540)364.1066