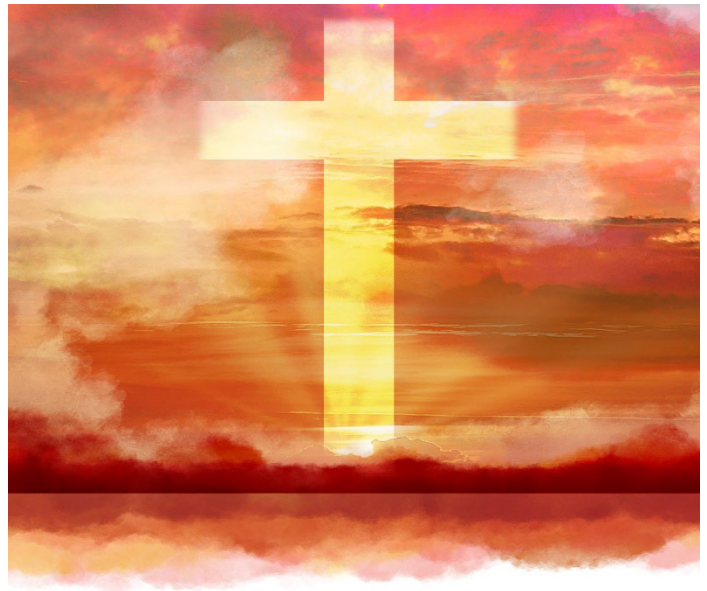


FUMC First United Methodist Church

224 Broad Street PO Box 178
Mason, Texas 76856
(325) 347-5105
www.fumcmason.org



April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter

GATHERING/WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Donna Ziriach

Easter people, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ *is* risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up: How do we know? What’s the proof? Is Resurrection real?

Within our questioning, Christ appears.

We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ’s resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

Within our certainty, Christ appears.

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God’s salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us!

Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

*SONG OF PRAISE “Love Divine, All Love Excelling” v. 1,3,4

UMH#384

<p>1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.</p>	<p>3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.</p>
<p>4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.</p>	

Acolytes bring in the light of Christ acknowledging the Presence of God.

A YEAR WITH GOD: *We color Easter white because it is the time we celebrate the mystery that Jesus died but is still with us.*

CENTERING PRAYER SONG: “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

UMH#349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, (wonderful face,)	and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.
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CONFESSION: God, you have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often, we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

All pray in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING – U.M.C.O.R

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Donna Ziri ax

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

Donna Ziri ax

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence. ²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³² “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

SONG OF PREPARATION: "Breath on Me Breath of God" v. 1,3

UMH #420

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.	3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
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SCRIPTURE: John 20: 19-31

Pastor Laura

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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." ²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON: Formed by Jesus

Pastor Laura

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY:

***SONG OF THANKS: Doxology**

UMH #95

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE

<p>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 the folded graveclothes where thy body lay. Refrain: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.</p>	<p>2. Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. Refrain: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.</p>
<p>3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. Refrain: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.</p>	

SENDING FORTH – BLESSING
This service is live-streamed on
[Youtube.com/@fumcmason](https://www.youtube.com/@fumcmason)

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MH=United Methodist Hymnal; FWS=The Faith We Sing; W&S=Worship and Song

Assisting in Worship

Lay Reader: Donna Ziriaux

Ushers: Winfred and Carmen Bauer

Organist/Pianist: Chris Farmer Music Leader: Leslie Whitworth

Acolytes: Marin Whitworth

****Remember to sign Russell Watson’s Bible
 In the Social Hall***

****Don’t forget, the Food Pantry needs us, drop off
 your donations in the Social Hall***

Questions for Reflection

According to the gospel, Christ's wounds were not erased by the resurrection. In fact, he invites Thomas and the other disciples to touch his wounds to bring the disciples back to faith. How might we in the church use our wounds to help others come to faith?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One, you have made known to me the ways of life and have promised to fill me with the gladness of your presence. Keep me mindful of your guidance and your promise as I travel through this day, that my heart may be glad. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you, God, for giving me your counsel today. Tonight, as I sleep, may the dreams of my heart also serve to instruct me in your ways. In you I have a good heritage, and my heart, my soul, and my body rest in you. Amen.



Please pray for our members and loved ones who are homebound or residing in nursing homes. Also, let's pray for: the family of: Gene Zesch, Jay L Marek, Billy C Mikeska, Scott Balmos, Joe H Luna, Anne Chappell, Mike Morquecho.

The following individuals: Barbara Young, Judy Cordes, Susan Coe, Frank Brown, Mary Polk, Mary Freytag, George Eastes, renal/kidney issues), Lisa Polk, Bill Hart, Tammy Parrish, Shirley Beth Lyles, Marty Evans (son of Dennis & Kay Evans) Rick & Bonnie Woerner (Father & Stepmother of Tiffany K.), Dan Feather, Katherine Graham (friend of Nikki Watson diagnosed w/ cancer), LeiLei Vermulen (chemo treatments), Aubrey Burrow, Kash (Rodney Fleming's grandson), Connar Reardon, Doris Grote, Lorine Metz, the church, the homeless, and all those affected by war and natural disasters.

Please pray for our members and loved ones who are in the military. U.S. Army: Joseph Alba, T.J. Schovajsa, Britney Schovajsa and Kalyn Bauer **US Marine Corp:** Hunter Goodwin, Kellen Sawyer. **USAF:** Matt Adam **US Navy:** Ferd T. Slocum III & Truman Coe.

**MINISTERS—ALL MEMBERS OF FUMC
STAFF—LISTED BELOW**

Rev. Laura Hewett Becker	pastorlaura@fumcmason.org
Heilyn Gutierrez, Office Manager	officemgr@fumcmason.org
Deandra Palacio Family Ministries	familyministries@fumcmason.org
Terri Reardon, RN Wesley Nurse	Treardon@mhm.org
Rhett Vacek, A/V Tech	rhettvacek@gmail.com
Freddy Sapien Steady Steps Dir.	steadysteps@fumcmason.org
Leslie Whitworth Music Dir.	

Giving and Attendance	
LAST WEEK'S GIVING (APRIL 5, 2026)	\$ 6,707.48
APRIL. MTD GIVING.....	\$11,840.81
APRIL. MTD EXPENSE.....	\$1,921.99
ATTENDANCE FOR EASTER SERVICES (APRIL 2,3,5, 2026)	129



Virtual Eastertide Lily Parade 2026

During the season of Eastertide, I'd like to invite you to participate in a special offering to the work of the Risen Christ in our church. We will have a virtual lily parade in honor or in memory of loved ones and special life-affirming moments. A minimum gift of \$15 will be appreciated for each 'Lily' that you would like to add to our parade.

You are welcome to bring or send a special Easter Offering to the church or give online. Please designate Lily Parade on your gift if you would like to join the parade. Also send an email or attach the name to be listed with your lily:

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Life Affirming Moment _____

Church office: officemgr@fumcmason.org

The Virtual Lily Parade will run from Easter to Pentecost. A few lilies will be purchased for the sanctuary to enhance our worship space. Let us celebrate the 50 Days of Easter!

This week's Calendar

Sunday, April 12

Noisy Bucket Offering Sunday – U.M.C.O.R

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages

11:00 AM Worship Service

4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts

Birthday: Nikki Watson

Monday, April 13

9:30 AM Prayer Shawl

10:00 AM Chair Yoga

5:15 PM Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, April 14

9:30 AM Steady Steps Chapel

3:45 After school Chapel

5:30 PM Steady Steps Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 15

10:00 AM Chair Yoga

10:30 AM Ministerial Alliance Meeting

06:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, April 16

Birthday: Pastor Laura Becker

Friday, April 17

Birthday: Judy Cordes

10:00 am. Chair Yoga

Saturday, April 18

Sunday, April 19

9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages

11:00 AM Worship Service

4:00 – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts