

Third Sunday of Easter



Sunday, April 26
10:45 service

Prelude *Brother James' Air* Dale Wood (1934-2003)
Diane Keller, Organist

Welcome Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Opening Hymn *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* UMH 158

Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
let all, with heart and voice,
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!
he is our Guide and Friend;
to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end.
Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again,
Alleluia! Amen!
life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
on heaven's blissful shore,
his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore,
"Alleluia! Amen!"

Call to Worship

Reverend Ann Duncan

The Lord harkens to our call,
listening to our pleas and hearing our prayers!
We will praise God who gives rest to our souls!

In the courts of the house of the LORD,
in the presence of all God's people,
we acknowledge our faith.
We will call on the Lord as long as we live! (cont.)

We are your servants, O God;
you have released our bonds!

We will offer sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving!

How shall we repay the Lord for all we have been given?

**We will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord!**

Children's Moment

Reverend Ann Duncan

Invitation to the Offering

Reverend Ann Duncan

Offertory Prayer

Reverend Ann Duncan

Lord, we ask your blessing on these gifts and on us your people. Please be with us and give us courage. Use these gifts to help others as you have healed and helped us, for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Offertory

Holy Manna

arr. Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

Diane Keller, Organist

Pastoral Prayer

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Risen Christ, we thank you for your resurrection power to rise this morning. We are grateful for another day that we can live and love one another. As we come before you today, we come, with a mixture of praise and thanksgiving, joys, and concerns. We praise your name and thank you for all our many blessings. In this time of social distancing we are learning to appreciate those activities in which we cannot participate and long to do so. At the same time, we are learning (or relearning) activities which have become very meaningful for us. We give thanks for the opportunity to connect with family and friends with whom we may have lost contact. We are thankful for the many people who graciously reach out to us with offers of assistance. While this is not a set of circumstances none of us would choose or could have imagined, we are thankful that, in many cases, we are able to experience the very best in persons; some of whom we barely knew before now.

As most of us remain sheltered in our homes, we pray your guiding presence with those who are working so hard to fight the deadly virus which has upended all our lives. We lift to you the doctors, nurses, EMTs, hospital administrators, attendants, persons working fervently to develop treatments and a vaccine to increase the survival and prevention rate. Lord provide for them what they need. You are Jehovah girah, our provider. We pray for the vendors, manufacturers, and laborers along the PPE, ventilator, sanitary supplies, supply, and delivery chain. Help them resource what they need to be successful. We ask that you give us a global problem-solving approach. Give us the interlocking insight and foresight that we might necessary to prepare for the next viral and economic pandemic heading our way. We give you thanks and ask for your blessings upon all the service workers; people we may have never noticed before, who are working around the clock to help us keep food on the table; our lights, heat, and water on; our cars running; our communities safe; our mail delivered; to enable us to shop for the things we need from the safety of our homes; for drivers who deliver what we cannot get for ourselves; these and so many more who work behind the scenes. We ask for your blessing upon all of those who work so that we can retain life and social distancing at home. For them, we give you thanks.

Omniscient Christ, we are concerned about those who have no shelter and those who are experiencing food insecurity around the world. Use us to feed and shelter those who are most vulnerable and to participate in the enactment of legislation and legislators who lead with economic and social justice purview.

Omnipresent God, Remind us that you are with us always. Let us see and feel your presence around and within us. Let that peace you promise us when we keep our minds stayed on you, spread contagiously to all that we meet. Thank you for allowing us to walk and talk with you this and every day. Amen And the people prayed the Lord's prayer together.

Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as
we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem

Be Thou My Vision

John Rutter

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both walking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armor, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower;
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou vision, O Ruler of all.

Scripture

Luke 24:13-25

Pamela Cutkosky

Hymn

When We Face an Unknown Future

FWS 2199

When we face an unknown future that we can't imagine yet,
when the closeness we have treasured turns from blessing into threat —
As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave community,
may we look, God, in this season, for a whole new way to be.

Jesus faced the lonely desert as a time to look within.
There he met such trial and conflict; there he knew you were with him.
In this time of separation when we miss the life we've known,
may we hear your voice proclaiming: "I am here! You're not alone."

May we cherish those around us as we never have before.
May we think much less of profit; may we learn what matters more.
May we hear our neighbors' suffering; may we see our neighbors' pain.
May we learn new ways of offering life and health and hope again.

God, when illness comes to threaten, and when so much here goes wrong,
may we know this thing for certain — that your love is sure and strong.
You're beside us in our suffering — and when times are surely tough,
we may face an unknown future, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.

Message

Community and Fellowship

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH No. 94

Closing Hymn

Blessed Be the Dear Uniting Love

UMH 566

Benediction

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Postlude

Tuba Tune in D Major

C.S. Lang (1891-1971)

Diane Keller, Organist