

Offertory Prayer

Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by your grace, you call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept now these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. In Christ, who breathes peace upon us, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology UMH 94

*Hymn *Christ Is Alive* UMH 318

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| <p>1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.</p> <p>2. Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and dwell in every place and time.</p> <p>3. Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior in the Godhead reigns.</p> | <p>4. In every insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.</p> <p>5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and all creation ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.</p> |
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*Benediction Reverend Burke Owens

*Alleluia

Postlude *Tuba Tune* C.S. Lang (1891-1971)

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of my parents, Anna Marie and Bill Reasner, by Pamela Cutkosky

**Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens
 Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios
 Director of Music: Mark Shaull
 Organist: Diane Keller
 Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY
 of *Easter*



SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2026
 10:45 AM SERVICE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2026

Prelude *Surely Goodness and Mercy* A.B. Smith (1916-2001)
 Fiume di Musica arr. Julianne Stafford

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Linda Grossman

*Call to Worship Linda Grossman

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 salvation, a story still unfolding all around us.
We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.

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

<p>1. 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!</p> <p>2. 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!</p>	<p>3. Praise yet the Lord 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!</p>
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Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Anthem *Rejoice Ye Pure of Heart* Healey Willan

*Scripture *Luke 24: 13-33* Norman Obenshain

Message *What Next?* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer. Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer Reverend Burke Owens

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* UMH 315 v. 1,2,5

<p>1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters, led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.</p> <p>2. 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.</p>	<p>5. "Alleluia!" now we cry to our King immortal, who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal; "Alleluia!" with the Son, God the Father praising, "Alleluia!" yet again to the Spirit raising.</p>
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Invitation to the Offering Linda Grossman