

Welcome to Seward United Methodist Church

April 17, 2022 - 8:00 a.m.



Making disciples who make a difference in Seward and beyond.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Special Easter Video

Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

One: This is the day that God has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: Out of the doom of death and despair,
Victory comes, glory appears.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: We shall live, witness, and recount the deeds
Of the God whose love endures forever.

**All: We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

Hymn

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Chancel Choir & Congregation
Virginia Fraser & Pam McConnell**

¹Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise
He, who on the cross, a Savior, for the world salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.

Choir Only

²*Now the prison bars are broken,
Christ from death to life is born.
Glorious life, and life immortal, on this blessed Easter morn.
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by His mighty enterprise;
We with Him, to life eternal, by His resurrection rise.*

³Worship, honor, glory, blessing,
Lord, we offer unto Thee;
Young, and old, thy praise expressing, in glad homage bend the knee.
All the saints in heav'n adore Thee. We would bow before Thy throne;
As thine angels serve before Thee, so on Earth Thy will be done.

Common Prayer

O, Redeeming God,
Like Mary of Magdala weeping at the tomb,
we, too, have witnessed the wonders of your work
with our own teary eyes.
In this hour, O God,
Elevate us in Christ and with the power of the Holy Spirit,
so that others may be awakened through our
preaching and proclaiming the good news:
news of healing, peace, justice, and community for all people.
Amen.

Special Easter Video

Children's Time

Pastor JoEllen Axthelm

Special Music Video

Rolling That Stone Away

Preschool Praise

Scripture Lesson

II Corinthians 5:16-20

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ,

there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to God's self through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to God's own self, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making this appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

John 20: 11-18

¹¹ Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbi!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that Jesus had said these things to her.

Hymn

He Lives

UMH 310

1. 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.

2. In all the world 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. (R)

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.

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,
lift up your voice 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. (R)

Sermon

"New Life in Christ"

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

The Prayers of the People

Please share your joys or concerns at the microphone or in the comments on Facebook or by texting us at 402-810-8900.

1 Christ is risen!
 Shout Hosanna!
 Celebrate this day of days.
 Christ is risen!
 Hush in wonder;
 all creation is amazed.
 In the desert
 all-surrounding,
 see, a spreading tree has grown.
 Healing leaves of
 grace abounding
 bring a taste of love unknown.

2 Christ is risen!
 Raise your spirits
 from the caverns of despair.
 Walk with gladness
 in the morning.
 See what love can do and dare.
 Drink the wine of
 resurrection,
 not a servant, but a friend;
 Jesus is our
 strong companion.
 Joy and peace shall never end.

3 Christ is risen!
 Earth and heaven
 nevermore shall be the same
 Break the bread of
 new creation
 where the world is still in pain.
 Tell its grim,
 demonic chorus:
 "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
 God the First
 and Last is with us.
 Sing Hosanna everyone!

Sharing of Joys & Concerns
 Pastoral Prayer
 The Lord's Prayer

Offertory**Pam McConnell****Doxology****Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow****UMH 94**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise God, all creatures here below;
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

For the wondrous ways this offering will bless this community, help us nurture caring relationships with our neighbors, and do our part to liberate all who are experiencing oppression, we dedicate these

gifts. Let this offering, and the works of our hands and feet, be the resurrection we need to see in the world. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

A Great Thanksgiving For Easter

This Great Thanksgiving incorporates texts from Christ the Lord is Risen Today by Charles Wesley as congregational responses. The text are used in an order which best fits the Eucharistic Prayer. For Holy Communion, if at home, you may use whatever simple elements you have at hand — bread, crackers, pita, juice, water, wine. If you are at in person worship please follow the instructions given by the Pastor. The bread is gluten free.

ALL SINGING:

UMH 302, v. 1

***Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!***

ONE:

Holy One, Eternal and Blessed

ALL:

We lift up our hearts to You.

ONE:

Your love overflows, calling the wonder of creation into being
Filling the world with beauty and goodness

ALL:

Receive our thanks and praise

ONE:

We join the company of heaven
and Your faithful in every time and place
in celebrating Your victory over sin and death

ALL SINGING:

UMH 302, v. 2

***Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!***

ONE:

Glory to You, God of grace and majesty
and glory to Your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Savior of the world

On the third day, You raised Jesus from the dead.
Death could not destroy him!
The grave could not enslave him!

ALL SINGING:

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

ONE:

The world despised and rejected You.
You responded with grace, humility and welcome.
The proud questioned Your power, devised Your death.
You responded with peace, forgiveness and new life.

ALL SPEAKING:

**Forgive us, merciful Jesus
Our arrogance,
Our selfishness,
Our violence.
Instead, make us like You.**

ONE:

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread,
gave it to those gathered around the table, and said:
“Take, eat; this is the bread of life 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 those gathered and said:
“Drink from this, all of you;
this is the sign 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.”

ALL SPEAKING:

**We remember You
We need You
We claim Your resurrection power:
Dying, You destroyed our death
Rising, You restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

ONE:

Come Christ Jesus
And come Holy Spirit,
Abide with us and in us
And on these gifts of bread and cup
Make them be for us the bread of life and the cup of grace
That we may be, now and forever, Your Easter people,
Whole, Holy, Alive
One with You and one with each other
Together fulfilling Your saving work

ALL SINGING:

UMH 302, v. 6

**King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!**

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Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Hymn

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

UMH 304

1. Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
heavenly music, let it ring:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Easter people, let us sing.

2. Fear of death can no more stop us
from our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us to
triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

3. Every day to us is Easter,
with its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster
to our God who rights the wrong.
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" See the power of heavily throngs.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

Postlude

Pam McConnell

The People of God Go Forth to Serve

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