

Littleton United Methodist Church
April 19, 2009
The Second Sunday of Easter
Service of the Word

Prelude *Prelude & Fugue in F Major* BACH
During the prelude, please silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Members and guests please sign the friendship pad located at the end of the pew.

+Introit *Alleluia, Alleluia (verses 1&2)* Page 162

+Greeting

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us praise God for the mighty deeds wrought through Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise God for loosing the chains of sin!**

Pastor: Let us praise God for the mighty deeds wrought through Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise God for breaking the bonds of death!**

Pastor: Let us praise God for the mighty deeds wrought through Jesus Christ.

People: **Praise God for releasing the forces of love! Let us join with God's people everywhere and praise Jesus Christ the Lord!**

+Entrance Hymn #307 *Christ Is Risen* W ZLOBIE LEZY

Prayer of the Day

Ever-present God, who by the power of the Holy Spirit transforms us individually and as a church to be your dwelling place, confront us here in the midst of our doubts, grant us your peace while we face our fears, and increase our trust that we may embrace life in all its fullness. Speak to us now the word that we need, empowering us to be a unifying presence in our broken world. AMEN.

The First Reading *Acts 4:32-35* Mike Herman, Lay Reader

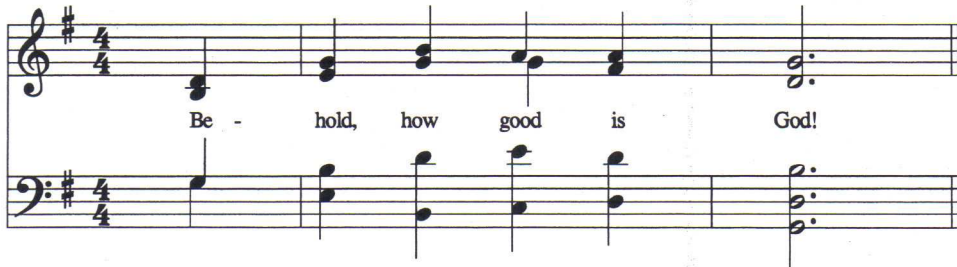
All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 133



Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when we live together in unity!
**It is like the precious oil upon the head,
running down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!**
It is like the dew of Hermon
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
**For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life for evermore.**

R

The Second Reading

1 John 1:1-2:2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader: This is the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

arr. WEBB

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

CELTIC ALLELUIA

+The Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

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

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord, the word of God for us, the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Proclaiming the Resurrection"

Rev. Rob Licht

+Hymn #2242

Walk With Me

GLASER

+The Apostles' Creed

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+Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we have taken the name "Christian," but few of us are known primarily by that name. We have experienced Easter radiance, but we seldom reflect the light of our risen Savior. We have heard the message of salvation, but it grows cold on our lips and is of little influence on our lives. Sometimes we delude ourselves that, because we are basically good people, there is no sin in us. We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Sin is separation from you, and we have allowed great chasms and built high walls to keep you out of our lives. Forgive us, we pray. AMEN.

Words of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet Sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

The Offertory

Antiphon

YOUNG

A special note to our guests: The ministries and work of our church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial

giving of our members and friends. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled to make a contribution. Please accept this time of worship as our gift to you. We hope that it has been meaningful and that you will worship with us again.

+The Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

+The Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Page 895

+Closing Hymn #2196

We Walk By Faith

MARTYRDOM

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response

Alive

PARKS

Alive! Alive! Jesus Is Alive!

No greater affirmation could a mortal tongue impart;

Alive! Alive! Jesus Is Alive!

Triumphant over sin and death

He lives within my heart!

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary

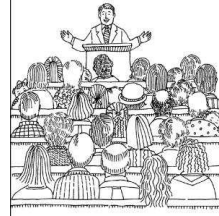
YOUNG

+The congregation will stand as you are able

*** Printed copies of the sermon are available after the service in each narthex*

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 132



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
Monday: 1:00 PM Sewing Circle / Bee
Wednesday: 6:00 PM Bible Study
7:30 PM Choir practice

Our Gifts

Offerings last week: \$3,790.14



The flowers today were given by
Judy & Loretta Woodburn
in memory of their parents.

Our Mission Statement

Littleton United Methodist Church strives to provide all-inclusive worship of
God through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
We are committed to deepening our spiritual growth.
We are to minister in Christ's name to the needy, the sick, the dying, the
unchurched, and to each other.
We are to be active Christians, spreading the Good News.
We are to strive to witness for Jesus in our daily lives, in our community and
throughout the world.



Our Service

Serving in Worship:

Choir Director / Organist: Tom Parker
Organist emeritus: Trudi May
Acolyte: Martha Sherman
Greeters: Marj Prescott (west)
Maj Johnston (east)
Ushers: Jack May (west)
Al Prescott (west)
Sherm Merchant (east)
Nursery: Susan Merchant
Julie Johnston
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel
Communion stewards: Don & Connie Henry
Ed & Darla Angel

2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: TBA
Outreach: Helen Burtchell
Missions: Richard Sherman
Finance: Mike Herman
Pastor-Parish: Sherman Merchant
Lay Leadership: Rob Licht
Trustees: Shirley Anschutz
Kitchen: Marie Fields
Membership: Marj Prescott
Scholarship: Marvin Newsom III
Memorials: Matt Johnston
Newsletter: Susan Merchant
Sunday School Superintendent: Jean Jarvis

Serving in our Church, Community and World

If you are interested in knowing more about our mission projects, our church, or becoming a member, please call Pastor Rob at 252 586-5385.

THANK YOU to all who helped at our **Stop Hunger Now** event yesterday.

The **Blanket Bee / Sewing Circle** will meet in our fellowship hall at 1:00 PM on Monday.

The **deadline for newsletter** articles and photos has been extended until Monday. Please email them to susanmerchant@gmail.com