

**Littleton United Methodist Church**  
**April 26, 2009**  
**The Third Sunday of Easter**  
**Service of the Word**

**Prelude** *Basse et Dessus de Trompette* CLERAMBAULT  
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: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer-

People: **Who was anointed by the spirit of God to bring good news to the poor.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer-

People: **Who was crucified by the keepers of order for heeding the summons of God.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer-

People: **Who baptizes us with the Holy Spirit for bringing the reign of God to earth.**

**+Entrance Hymn #304** *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* REGENT SQUARE

**Prayer of the Day**

**God of amazing surprises, whose proclamation of peace through the risen Christ startles us yet washes over us with refreshing joy, we are eager to see Jesus and to trust that the purity of life we know through him is worth emulating. Put us in touch with the truth that cleanses and makes whole so we can relate to others in ways that reconcile and redeem. AMEN.**

**The First Reading** *Acts 3:12-19* A.J. Lunde, Lay Reader

When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy

and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see. "Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

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

**Psalter** *Psalm 4*



Answer me when I call, O God of my right!  
**You have given me room when I was in distress.  
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.**  
How long, O people, shall my honor suffer shame?  
**How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?**  
But know that the Lord has set apart the righteous as God's own;  
**the Lord hears when I call. R**

Be angry, but do not sin;  
**commune with your own hearts in your beds, and be silent.**  
Offer right sacrifices,  
**and put your trust in the Lord.**  
There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!  
**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord!"**  
You have put more joy in my heart  
than they have when their grain and wine abound.  
**In peace I will both lie down and sleep;**  
**for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety. R**

**The Second Reading** *1 John 3:1-7*

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawless-

ness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

**Anthem**

*On The Journey To Emmaus*

HAUGEN

**+Gospel Acclamation #2043**

*Alleluia*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

**+The Holy Gospel**

*Luke 24:36b-48*

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

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

**Sermon**

*"To Know the Resurrection"*

Rev. Rob Licht

**+Hymn #462**

*'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

TRUST IN JESUS

**+The Apostles' Creed**

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**+Prayer of Confession**

**O God, we are disturbed and distressed by the evil that surrounds us. It is hard to view some of the people we see as your children: murderers, abusers, those who cheat others and profit at their expense. We feel like victims. Why should we confess our sins when there is so much evil beyond our influence? Yet we know we do not abide in your love. We sin by turning away from sisters and brothers who are also beloved by you, however they may differ from us. We seek the forgiveness you promise and the health you offer. AMEN.**

**A Moment of Silent Confession**

## 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

*Bouree*

TELEMANN

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

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## +Closing Hymn #318

*Christ Is Alive*

TRURO

## +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

*Allegro Maestoso*

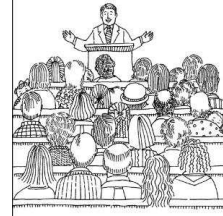
HANDEL

*+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: 50  
Sunday school: 13



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service  
11:20 Sunday school

Wednesday: 6:00 PM Bible Study  
7:30 PM Choir practice

Friday: 7:00 PM Family Movie Night

Sunday (5/3): Noon - Lunch Bunch  
4:00 PM El Salvador presentation

## Our Gifts

Offerings last week: \$3,030.98



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: Barbara Reinhardt (west)  
Frances Howell (east)  
Ushers: Jack May (west)  
Al Prescott (west)  
Norm Lunde (east)  
Nursery: Susan Merchant  
Susannah Sherman  
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan  
Ed 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.*

Our free **Family Movie Night** will be this Friday at 7:00 PM in our fellowship hall. This month's movie will be Disney's new release, "Bolt".

**Next Sunday (May 3rd)** there will be a **Lunch Bunch** at noon in our fellowship hall. They will be inaugurating their new grill with a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs.

**Next Sunday evening (May 3rd)** at 4:00 PM, Kristy Barnes (who has traveled to El Salvador 4 times with our mission team) will be giving a **talk about the need for educational supplies for the children in El Salvador.**

The **Events Team** will meet at 5:00 PM on **Monday May 4th**, prior to the Administrative Council meeting.

The **Administrative Council** will meet on **Monday May 4th** for dinner at 6:30 PM, followed by the meeting at 7:00.