

Littleton United Methodist Church
April 4, 2010
The Feast of Easter
Service of Word and Table

Prelude

Christ Arose

HUSTAD/SMITH

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

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

+Introit #304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices (verse 1 only)

REGENT SQUARE

+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: The baby was born in a stable;

People: **Today he arose from the grave!**

Pastor: The child was wrapped in swaddling clothes;

People: **Today his shroud lies empty!**

Pastor: Behold the new heavens, the angels singing;

People: **Behold the new earth, the stone rolled away!**

+The Blessing of the Paschal Candle

Pastor: Jesus Christ, yesterday and today, the beginning and the ending, Alpha and Omega; all time belongs to him, and all ages;

People: **to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.**

Pastor: By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ our Lord, guard and keep us!

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: May the light of Christ who rises this day in glory scatter the darkness of our hearts and minds. Let us pray.

People: **Almighty God, pour out your abundant blessing on this lighted candle, so that all who share and celebrate the great mystery of your death and resurrection may be filled with your grace and spiritual blessings. Once we were in darkness, but since we have become the Lord's people, we are in the light. Help us to live as people who belong to the light, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

+Entrance Hymn #302

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

Prayer of the Day

God of empty tombs; God of promises fulfilled; strong, impartial, accepting, loving Creator of all things: roll away the stones that lock us in tombs of prejudice, limited vision, and unbelief. Help us to recognize Christ in our midst, that we may feel your touch, hear your Word, and be moved to respond. AMEN.

The First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Bruce Fowler, Lay Reader

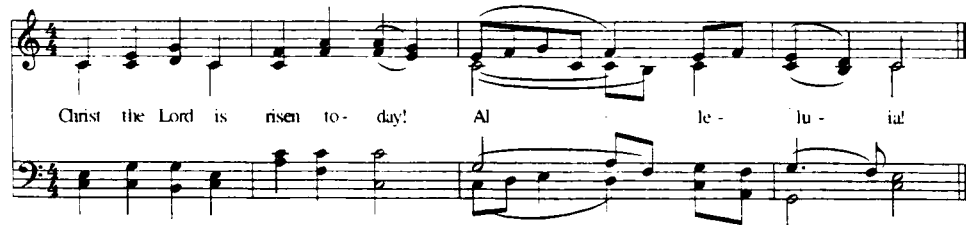
Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalter

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24



Give thanks to the Lord, who is good,
Whose mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now proclaim,

"The mercy of the Lord endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my power;
the Lord has become my salvation.

**There are joyous songs of victory
in the tents of the righteous:**

"The right hand of the Lord does valiantly,
the right hand of the Lord is exalted,

the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!"

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

**The Lord has chastened me sorely,
but he has not given me over to death.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

R

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

R

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

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

Anthem

Joy Fills the Morning

LOTTI

+Gospel Acclamation #2043

Alleluia

+The Holy Gospel

John 20:1-18

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

Sermon

"On the Run"

Rev. Rob Licht

+The Apostles' Creed

Page 881

Prayer of Confession

Dazzling God, we are blinded to your majesty. We have taken for granted the amazing wonder of life, without seeing you as the source of all things. We shrink from the chastening judgment we deserve. We resist the changes we know we must make to

receive new life. Save us from the calamity of our selfish ways. Rescue us from all hurtful and destructive habits. Forgive our broken promises, heal our broken relationships, lift our broken spirits, so we may share in the resurrection of Christ. 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

Immortal Love, Forever Full

WILLAN

+The Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Hymn #322

Up from the Grave He Arose

CHRIST AROSE

The Great Thanksgiving (Alternate Musical Setting)

Laminated sheet

The Lord's Prayer

Page 895

+Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Help us see the Risen Christ in all people. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

+Closing Hymn #303

The Day of Resurrection

LANCASHIRE

+Dismissal with Blessing

+Congregational Response #310

He Lives (refrain only)

ACKLEY

+Taking God's Light Into The World

+Chiming of the Trinity

+Postlude

Thine Is the Glory

HANDEL

+The congregation will stand as you are able

**** Communion rail offerings are designated for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.**

Our Presence

Attendance last week
Worship service: 67
Sunday school: 14



Today: 10:00 AM Worship Service
Children's Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the service
No Sunday School today!

Monday: 11:15 AM Trustees meeting at Casa Mia's
1:00 PM Mary Lucy Self Circle meeting

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Study
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday: 9:00 AM Food Delivery
10:00 - 12:00 Littleton ACTS Food Pantry

Saturday: 10:00 AM Stop Hunger Now Packaging Event

Our Gifts

Offerings 3/28

\$1,434.00



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: Peg Fowler (east)
Marj Prescott (west)
Ushers: George Alston (east)
Bob Workman (west)
Lee Reinhardt (west)
Nursery: as needed
Sound: Dick O'Sullivan
Ed Angel

2010 Committee Chairpersons:

Administrative Council: Richard Sherman
Congregational Care: Jean Houston
Shepherding: Elizabeth Solovieff
Discipleship: Helen Burtchell
Age Level: Diana Parham
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

After the worship service, there will be an **Easter Egg Hunt** for the children at the side yard of the church.

There will be **no Sunday School** today.

The **Trustees** will meet at 11:15 on Monday at Casa Mia's restaurant.

The **Mary Lucy Self Circle** will meet at 1:00 PM on Monday in the board room.

The **Littleton ACTS Food Pantry** will be open on Friday from 10:00 until noon.

Our annual **Stop Hunger Now packaging event** will be this Saturday. Volunteers and donations are needed. Please let Sherman Merchant (586-7866) know if you would like to volunteer. Donation checks should be made to LUMC with "Stop Hunger Now" in the memo. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:45.

On **Sunday, April 11th** (The Second Sunday of Easter), we will **welcome new members** into our congregation. If you have been attending worship and would like to make firm your commitment to serving God as part of this faith community, please contact Pastor Rob concerning church membership.

*****Note—the side door will be locked during the worship service.**