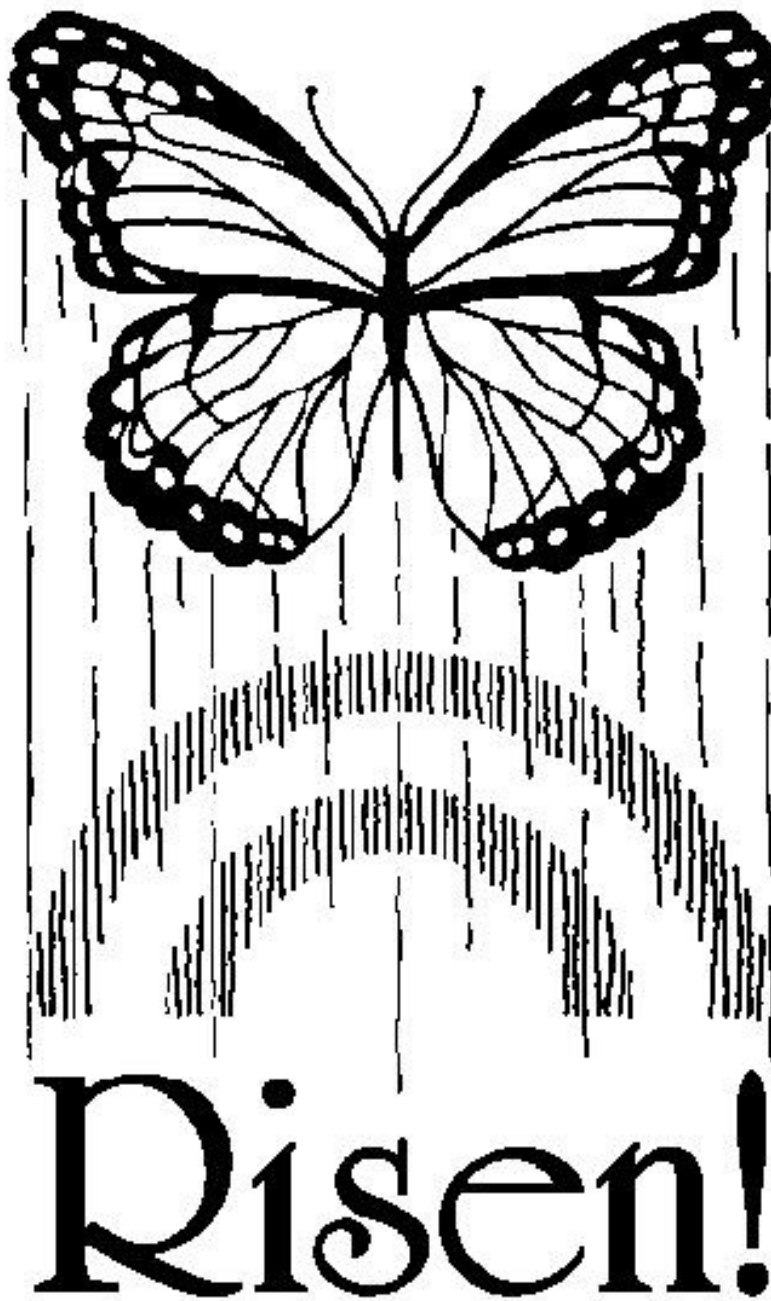


Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

Call to Worship †§

- L: Alleluia! Christ is risen! The women who went to anoint Jesus' body found that his tomb was empty because he had risen from the dead!
- P: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**
- L: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- P: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn 233 : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15dmjnB8FZU>

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!**

**Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

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

**Soar we now where Christ had led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Confession †§

God of life and hope, we confess that even on this most holy day we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your loving presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

- L: The good news of Easter is that life and love are victorious over the ways of death: through God's steadfast love you are unconditionally forgiven!

The Service of the Word

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24

- L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
- P: Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”**
- L: The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

P: There are glad 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.”

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

P: The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

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

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

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

P: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

L: This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Gospel

Mark 16:1–8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Sermon

Sermon Hymn 245 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jk8oCBexo7k>

“The Day of Resurrection”

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover is gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
the Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;
We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,
for we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the whole world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.**

The Response to the Word

Offering (*Your offerings can be mailed in.*)

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn 243 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZm23MLCcas>

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
Jesus on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation bled;
But the crucified Redeemer now is risen from the dead!**

**Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born;
glorious life, and life immortal on this holy Easter morn;
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by God's liberating deed;
Now the Christ with us abiding to eternal life shall lead.**

**Christ is risen, we are risen; shed upon us heavenly grace,
Rain and dew, and gleams of glory from the brightness of your face;
That we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be,
And by angel hands be gathered, and be yours eternally.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the God of joy;
Alleluia to the Savior who came death's bonds to destroy;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia! To the Triune Majesty.**

Benediction †§

L: Now may the truth of the empty tomb keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you, this day and always.

All: Alleluia!

*Sung Benediction 233 Verse 1

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Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!**

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 1 ©2014 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Who we are...

Plymouth UCC is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, since we are all created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status and background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, humor, and blessings of participation in our congregation.

Spiritual Care Package

Questions for Reflection

What difference does it make to believe that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead? How does your faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ change the way you think about sin and death? How does it change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of endless life, in the light of this new day we see the dawning of your new creation. Give us wonder and delight to enjoy this day that you have made; through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over. Help us to know that you are with us—through the promise of your Word, in the sharing of a meal, and by the power of your Spirit that burns within our hearts. Bless and keep us, this night and always. Amen.

God is still speaking,