



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

The joy of Easter redemption is alive in this place.

We are bought with a price and called to be Easter people!

Darkness cannot claim us.

Fear cannot bind us.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Come, let us worship and bow down;

Let us kneel before Christ, our Redeemer.

### Invocation

### Hymn of Praise

"Christ is Risen"

### Prayer of Confession

Father God,

We have been freed by Your work on the cross and called to live as people redeemed by grace. We confess that it is difficult to be courageous disciples when we allow the fears and doubts of the world to overshadow the joy and hope we have been given in Jesus Christ.

You have given us Your great commandment— to love the Lord our God more than anything, and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We confess that too often our voices are silent, our ways are unjust, our attitudes are unforgiving, our words are unkind, and our actions do not reflect Your love.

In Your mercy, forgive what we have been.

Inspire us to examine our ways.

Guide us so that we may live lives that are pleasing to You.

*(a time for personal reflection)*

In Jesus Christ, God meets us where we are, forgives us, and calls us to joyfully share in God's redemptive work of love, compassion, and grace to all people.

Thanks be to God. AMEN

### New Testament Reading

James 2:14-18

### Morning Prayer

Rev. Gary Ihfe

### Hymn of Reflection

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

### Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:36-49

### Sermon

"Not a Ghost"

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

### Hymn of Commitment

"A Servant Song"

### Benediction

### Postlude