#### Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Acting Pastor
Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator
Ms. Donna Gross, Custodian

March 31, 2024 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

# Easter Sunday Mt. Zion's Road Trip: Road Work Ahead SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This morning, as we worship our God, we also celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here at Mt. Zion UCC, all are invited to the table of grace.

If you are a guest, thank you for worshiping with us today. We invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back of the sanctuary where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. Additionally, after the children's message during the 10:30 AM service, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

We pray God's blessing upon you. For today's service, we will be using the black hymnal.

(10:30 AM) PRAISE TEAM OPENER WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ is Risen, Risen Indeed

Getty & Getty

(10:30) RELEASING THE ALLELUIAS!

**PRELUDE** Allegro by Purcell

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

#### C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The prophet Jeremiah calls forth to the generations:

C: Set up road signs; put up guideposts. Take note of the road that you take.

L: The signs are clear: the stone is rolled away--

#### C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The signs are clear: the tomb is empty--

#### C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The signs are clear: the angels have come proclaiming good news—

#### C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: There is Road Work to be done, and the work is ours.

#### C: Let us travel on in faith.

L: Let us celebrate and share the Good News of our faith: Allelulia! Christ is Risen!

### C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

## \*OPENING HYMN (see next page)

Jesus Christ is Risen Today



# Jesus Christ is Risen Today



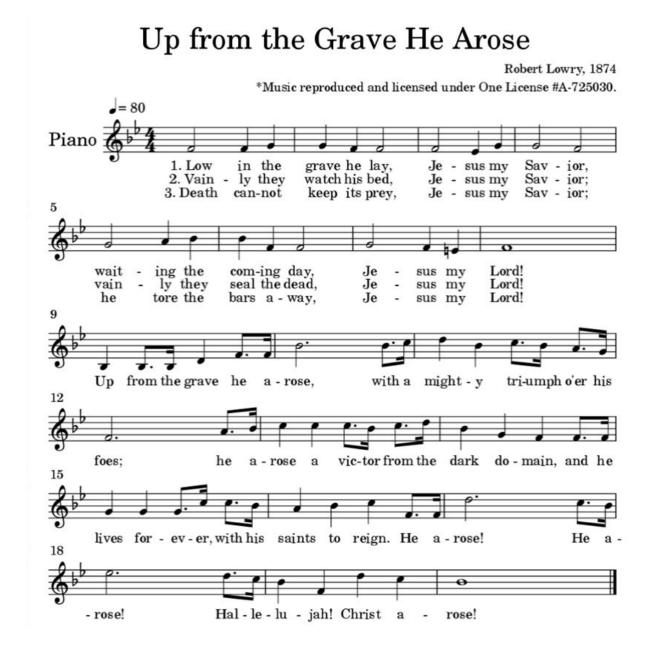
#### \*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>

C: we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON ACT OF PRAISE NO. 322 (UM Hymnal, see below)

Up From the Grave



**WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM** 

He is Risen

by Price/Besig

SCRIPTURE EASTER MESSAGE

Luke 34:1-12 (NRSV)

**HYMN NO. 308** (UM Hymnal, see below)

Thine Be the Glory

# Thine Be the Glory



#### **RESURRECTION PRAYERS**<sup>2</sup>

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### TIME OF GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

**CALL TO OFFERTORY** 

OFFERTORY Hosanna, Praise is Rising
OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 245 (black hymnal, vs. 1 & 3)

by Baloche

The Day of Resurrection

ALL SING: The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad; the Passover of 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.

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.

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER3

#### **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

O, Lord What a Morning

by Lau

#### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION<sup>4</sup>

INVITATION TO THE TABLE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: On this Easter Day, O God, we can do nothing but sing your praise. Just three days ago we thought that the story was over, and we never could have imagined what we see today...

And we do, share this meal and remember you, O living Christ—So, let us pray:

C: Awesome God, on this Easter Day, come among us by the power of your Spirit. Loving God, in the meal we are about to share, help us to glimpse the risen Christ at work in our world. Show us how to see and serve him in all those we meet, and guide us in finding your new life along our journey each and every day. Keep us faithful in your service until the new life we see in him is real for all the world as we feast together once and for all in the joy of your eternal realm. Through our risen Christ, we give you all praise and thanks and glory, eternal God, now and forever. Alleluia! Amen.

#### INVITATION TO THE MEAL

L: Alleluia Christ is risen!

#### C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L: The risen Christ is, His table is set, His meal is ready—let us eat and celebrate.

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS (all cups contain grape juice)

During the sharing of the elements, we will be singing various Easter hymns. Words for the songs will be listed on the screens. The hymnal numbers are also listed below if you'd prefer to use a hymnal. We will be singing the first verse of each hymn.

I Come to the Garden Alone, #237 (black hymnal)
Now the Green Blade Rises #238 (black hymnal)
Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day #241 (black hymnal)
He Lives # 310 (UM Hymnal)

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Together, let us give thanks in prayer for the meal we have shared. Risen Christ,

C: We have glimpsed you here as we have shared your bread and cup. So, help us to see you risen, present, and at work in our world. As we continue on the journey of faith this day help us to join you in making all things new, until you come again in glory and we feast again with you for all eternity. Alleluia! Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 233 (black hymnal, see next page) Christ the Lord is Risen Today

# Christ the Lord is Risen Today



#### \*BENEDICTION5

L: Go forth with the risen Christ leading the way, and get to work on the road of faith sharing the Good News of Christ's redeeming love with others.

We aren't there yet—the work of Christ continues

But we travel with the best roadside companions.

And we travel with joy

Because, Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen!

#### **POSTLUDE**

All Creatures of Our God and King

by Draper

<sup>1</sup>The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness are written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, and posted on her Rev-o-lution blog. http://rev-o-lution.org/ and were accessed for use on 3/23/24.

<sup>2</sup>The Resurrection Prayers are adapted from the writings of Christine Jerrett, and posted on Christine Jerrett: Reflections on being the Church in God's new creation.

http://christinejerrett.wordpress.com/tag/prayer/ and accessed on 3/23/24.

<sup>3</sup>The offertory prayer was written by Laura Jaquith Barlett, and posted on Ministry Matters. http://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/2528/worship-elements-april-12-2015 and accessed for use 3/23/24.

<sup>4</sup>The Communion Liturgy was adapted from the writings of Andy James, First Presbyterian Church, Whitestone, Queens, New York. As shared with permission for use on LiturgyLink: https://www.liturgylink.net/2012/04/07/easter-day-communion-a-stop-at-the-table/ and accessed for use on 3/2324.

<sup>5</sup>The sending is adapted from the writings of Cheryl Lawrie and posted on [hold this space]. http://holdthisspace.org.au/

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#### MT ZION UCC WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK.....

Thank you to our volunteers for blessing us with their gifts today.

### **Worship Choir**

Soprano: Andrea Adams, Carol Hartman, Norma Hull, & Barb Neff

Alto: Brenda Beyer, Jen Miller, & Paula Strayer

**Tenor:** Michael Maletz

**Bass:** Tom Bair & Braden Bicher **Choir Director:** Denny Daugherty

**Accompanist:** Travis Pinci

8 AM Welcome Team and Communion Servers: Jodi Graham & Becky Hester

8 AM Tech Team: Dave Firestone & Jack Herlocker

8 AM Liturgist: Deb Herlocker

8 AM Sermon Assistant: Freddie Northridge

10:30 AM Welcome Team and Communion Servers: Stella Fletcher, Faye Heal,

Sarah Shaffer, & Barb Stebbins,

10:30 AM Tech Team: Deb Herlocker, Jack Herlocker, & John Schriver

10:30 AM Liturgist: Andrea Adams

10:30 AM Sermon Assistant: Freddie Northridge

