

The UMC of New City Hybrid Worship

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter; "Jesus Sightings" -- Week 1

Welcome

Pastor Amanda

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Dr. Diana Hughes/Acolyte -- Nolan Family

Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed!

Leader: Jesus walks with us, day by day.

People: God is with us, always.

**Hymn #303 (UMH)

The Day of Resurrection

1. **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 hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.**
2. **Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.**
3. **Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin! Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein! Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.**

Unison Prayer:

Gracious God, in this Easter season, we thank you for your presence, for your love, for your power. We thank you that no ending comes without a new beginning, and that even in the hardest times, you are here. Fill our hearts with the assurance that you are present, here, now. Fill our souls with the knowledge that Jesus walks beside us, showing us the way. Give us the grace to feel your Spirit, to bask in your love, and to be people of Easter joy. In the name of our Risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

John 20:19, 24-31

Winsome Downie Rainford

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' . . . But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Spirit Stories

Jesus Sightings -- Week 1

Pastor Amanda, Mihea Kim, Rita Maslanek

Hymn #306 (UMH)

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

1. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! . . . The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!**
2. **The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed; let shouts of holy joy outburst: Alleluia!**
3. **The three sad days are quickly sped; he rises glorious from the dead; all glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!**
4. **Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia! . . . Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer Requests and Praises

Pastoral Prayer

The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Announcements

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Dr. Diana Hughes

**Doxology #95 (UMH)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host -- Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, bless these gifts, and use them to your glory, that we may learn to better see you at work in our lives, and truly praise our Risen Christ. Amen.

**Hymn #307 (UMH)

Christ Is Risen

1. **Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days. Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed. In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**
2. **Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend; Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**
3. **Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!" God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!**

**Blessing and Sending

**Choral Benediction

Amazing Grace Amen

Postlude

Dr. Diana Hughes

You are invited to join us for fellowship and refreshments.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. You are always welcome here! To be added to our email list, ask questions, request pastoral care, or explore the possibility of membership, contact the church office at umcofnewcity@gmail.org or call (845) 634-1758.

Sunday School for children pre-k (potty trained) through 6th grade is held during the worship service, directly following the Children's Message.

For online giving, please visit our website at newcityumc.org

Our thrift shop, Angel's Attic, is open Saturdays 9am-2pm and Thursdays 10am-12pm.

We are a Reconciling Church; we fully love and accept LGBTQ+ individuals and families.

Our Mission Statement is "Serving God through Serving Our Community."

**Indicates to please stand, if you are comfortable doing so. 'UMH' = The United Methodist Hymnal (red); 'TFWS' = The Faith We Sing (black). Both are available by the ushers.

May you go in Christ's peace, assured of God's love.

