

The UMC of New City Hybrid Worship

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter; "Jesus Sightings" -- Week 3

Welcome

Ray Boyd

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Dr. Diana Hughes/Acolyte -- Ali Beddows

Call to Worship

Leader: God is present in the here and now;

People: God is working for us, speaking to us, dancing in our midst.

Leader: Jesus is here!

People: The Risen Christ is always with us!

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD! AMEN.

**Hymn #315 (UMH)

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

1. **Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness; loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters, led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.**
2. **'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three day's sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.**
3. **Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.**
4. **Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal; but today a midst the twelve thou didst stand, bestowing that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.**
5. **"Alleluia!" now we cry to our King immortal, who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal; "Alleluia!" with the Son, God the Father praising, "Alleluia!" yet again to the Spirit raising.**

Unison Prayer

God of new beginnings, God of second chances, God of hope -- We thank you that you are also "God with us." We thank you that Jesus came, Immanuel, and blessed the earth with his presence. We thank you that Jesus rose and is with us, always. Help us to see him in all the world around us. Help us to hear him showing us the way. Help us to feel his guidance and his love, his forgiveness and his peace, as we endeavor to do our best to love you, and to love each other. We pray, trusting in your grace. Amen.

Children's Message

Pat Javenes

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:13-35

Rita Negrón Maslanek

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

Spirit Stories

Jesus Sightings -- Week 3

Norbert Rainford, Jeannine Alexandro, Pete Alexandro

Hymn #328 (UMH)

Surely the Presence

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

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

****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 #308 (UMH)**

Thine Be the Glory

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.

(Refrain): Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

(Refrain)

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *(Refrain)*

****Blessing and Sending**

****Choral Benediction #666 (UMH)**

Shalom to You

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

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.