

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

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*At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.*

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***Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.***

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Prelude

Christ is Risen

Christopher Tambling

Greeting

\*Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!

**Many: Let all who worship God say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."**

One: Out of my distress I called on God; God answered me and set me free.

**Many: God is with me, I do not fear.**

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

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

One: This is God's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**Many: This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*Hymn

"Thine Be the Glory"

UMH 308

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 grave clothes where thy body lay.

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

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.

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

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.

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

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

\*Praise Songs

**Me yi N'aye (I Will Praise Him)**

Me yi n'aye, Me yi Nyamea' ye...  
Me yi Nyamea' ye, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah ...

I will praise God, I will praise my God...  
I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

**Unto The Lord Be The Glory**

Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...  
Great things He has done. Greater things He will do.  
Unto the Lord be the glory. Great things He has done...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**Creator God, your saving love endures forever;  
your holy light pierces the cold darkness  
of death and chaos;  
you cut a covenant of life with your creatures,  
which no evil can overcome.  
May the glorious radiance of resurrection  
dispel the shadows in our lives  
and conform us more closely to your risen Christ,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor, praise, and glory. Amen.**

Children's Conversation

Announcement

Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

TFWS 2157

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

**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.**

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Nana Kofi Among Darkwa

Mo Mma Yenmbo se (Let us rejoice)

Let us rejoice, God lives always. Let us rejoice, He will always fight for us.  
Let us rejoice, we will always be victorious. Alleluia! Uplift and rejoice.

Let us rejoice, Christ our King walks with us always. Let us rejoice, He will grant us all our needs.  
Let us rejoice, we will be victorious. Alleluia! Uplift and rejoice.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Passing of Peace

“Shalom”

Mensah Essilfie

God’s peace be unto you,  
 We wish you Shalom!  
 The peace of God which transcends all  
 understanding be with you forevermore.

\*Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

Anthem

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

Michael Cox b. 1948

I know that my Redeemer lives; Glory, Hallelujah!  
 What comfort this sweet sentence gives, Glory, Hallelujah!  
 Shout on, pray on, we’re gaining ground, Glory, Hallelujah!  
 The dead’s alive, and the lost is found, Glory, Hallelujah!  
 He lives who once was dead,  
 He lives my everlasting head,  
 Glory, Hallelujah!  
 He lives to bless me with his love,  
 He lives to plead for me above,  
 Glory, Hallelujah!  
 He lives, all glory to his name!  
 He lives, my Jesus still the same,  
 Glory, Hallelujah!

Message

Holy Communion

“The Great Thanksgiving”

UMH 13-14

*The United Methodist Church practices Open Communion. All who desire to live in the love and peace of Jesus Christ are welcome to the bread and cup of communion. At the direction of the ushers, come forward using the center aisle to stand or kneel at the communion rail for distribution of the elements. After consuming the elements and private prayer at the rail, you may return to your seat via the side aisles. Please alert the ushers to anyone wishing to be served while remaining seated in the sanctuary. Non-alcoholic grape juice is used, and gluten-free wafers are available.*

\*Hymn

“Because He Lives”

UMH 364

God sent his Son, they called him Jesus,  
 he came to love, heal, and forgives;  
 he lived and died to buy my pardon,  
 an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
because he lives, all fear is gone;  
because I know he holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
and feel the pride and joy Jesus gives;  
but greater still the calm assurance,  
this child can face uncertain days because he lives.

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
because he lives, all fear is gone;  
because I know he holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river;  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
and then as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns.

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
because he lives, all fear is gone;  
because I know he holds the future,  
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

\*Benediction

Postlude

And the Lord with the Sound of the Trumpet

Andrew Fletcher

Worship Leaders: Gifty Bentum-Assante, Desmond Cheetham, Linda D'Acri, David Dagle,  
Earl Flagg, Chris Kerns, Byungmoo Lee, William Ness, Debbie O'Driscoll, David Potts,  
Jennifer Quansah, Chancel Choir, Ghanaian Choir, Worship Tech Team

Call to Worship – Psalm 118 ALT. *The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version*, Oxford Univ. Press.  
Common Prayer – *Worship & Song: Worship Resources*, Abingdon Press, 2011, 30., ALT.  
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