
AN ORDER OF WORD AND TABLE

EASTER DAY

Easter Day | April 4, 2021

First United Methodist Church

601 North Cedar, Abilene, Kansas 67410 | 785-263-2623 | www.AbileneFirstUMC.org

A Church of Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.

GATHERING

Gathering of the Congregation

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading — Acts 10:34-43 (NRSV)

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were

chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

HYMN* — *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*, UMH-302

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Al-le-lu-ia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Al-le-lu-ia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Al-le-lu-ia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Al-le-lu-ia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Al-le-lu-ia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Al-le-lu-ia! Christ has opened paradise, Al-le-lu-ia!
3. Lives again our glorious King, Al-le-lu-ia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al-le-lu-ia!
Once he died our souls to save, Al-le-lu-ia! Where's thy victory, boasting grave. Al-le-lu-ia!
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Al-le-lu-ia! Praise to thee by both be given, Al-le-lu-ia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Al-le-lu-ia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Al-le-lu-ia!

— Charles Wesley, 1739

Children's Message

Special Music — *Day of Victory*

Scripture Reading — 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (NRSV)

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

HYMN* — *Christ Has Risen*, FWS-2115

1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died, as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied. Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer; let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!
2. Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save; Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave. Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room. He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.
3. Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night, sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright. They bemoan what is no longer, they expect no hopeful sign till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.

4. Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange. Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been — evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

— John Bell (Matt. 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20–21; 1 Cor. 15:3–8)
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Scripture Reading — John 20:1-18 (NRSV)

1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her

Sermon

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I commit myself to God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I set my heart upon Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I place my trust in the Holy Spirit,
the holy church universal,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

RESPONSE* — *Glory Be To The Father, 71*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

— Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

Prayer of Confession

(A time of silent prayers of confession.)

Words of Assurance

A Stewardship Moment/Invitation to the Offering

RESPONSE — *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow, 95*

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

— Thomas Ken, 1674

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Saturday and Online)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Sunday In-Person)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. ...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, ...

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. ... all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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, [Meaning: save us from the time of trial.]
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Receiving the Bread and Cup

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Prayer after communion

GOING FORTH

HYMN* — *Up From the Grave He Arose*, H-322

1. Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior, waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Refrain: Up from the grave he arose, (he arose) with a mighty triumph o'er his foes (o'er his foes)
he arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.
He arose! (he arose) He arose! (he arose) Hallelujah! Christ arose!

2. Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior; vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord! *Refrain*

3. Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior; he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! *Refrain*

— Robert Lowry, 1874

Blessing

Postlude

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please note that **bold type** indicates congregational participation. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. "UMH" stands for *The United Methodist Hymnal* (blue book); "FWS" stands for *The Faith We Sing* (black book); and "WS" stands for *Worship and Song* (green book).

TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.
- Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastors, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns (softly, because of COVID-19), pray and voice the responses. Children learn by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
- If you need or want some time to yourself, there is a nursery available during each service. It is located in Room 205 at the south end of the church. Our ushers and greeters will be happy to direct you.

TO THE LARGER CONGREGATION

- Remember that the presence of children is a gift of hope for the future.
- Remember that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they think about the church, Christianity, and even God.
- Let children know that they are at home in God's house.
- A smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

FEEL FREE TO REMAIN SEATED

If, for any reason (health, comfort, personal preference, etc.), you need/prefer to remain seated during the hymns please do so. Don't give into peer pressure. You be you!

CLOSING CREDITS

Angie Hoerner and Kristy Engle, Piano
Velda Becker, Jason Vinduska, and John Purvis, Liturgists
Elizabeth Collins, Ward Turnbull, and Mason Cook, Sound
Elizabeth Collins, Troy Boyd, and Mason Cook, Slides
Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries
Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

The Newsletter

April 4, 3032 | First United Methodist Church, Abilene, Kansas

The mission of First United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ as we work together toward our vision of a church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please note: prayer concerns will be listed in the bulletin for four (4) weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS: Angie Hoerner [4/4], Keith Emig, [4/4], Sara Burwell [3/28], those grieving the loss of Steve Furguson [3/14/21], Sandy Sleichter [4/4].

COMMUNITY PRAYER CONCERNS: Skipper Blake (Janice Hoffman's son-in-law) [4/4], Dennis Williamson (Clark's brother) [3/21], those grieving the loss of Rick Simpson Jr. (Rick's son), [3/28], Kim Goodman [7/15/2018], doctors, nurses and other health care workers; students, teachers, administrators, school nurses, and other employees of local schools; restaurant and retail employees, postal workers and other delivery personnel; all others working in essential industries, employees and owners of small businesses [12/20]

THOSE WORSHIPING FROM HOME: Gary Donley, Evelyn York, Velma Becker, Joe Clemence, Steve Crump, Walt Hartman, Margie Miller, Ray Power, Marla Rutz, Donna Smith, Martha Zutavern, Donna Richards, Dorothy Veach, Darlene Sexton, Melvin Leckron, Dorothy Snider, Linda Chase, Verl Eckman and many of us!

THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Greg Austin, Tim Barns, Kayla Berven, Billy Brockman, Matthew Brinker, Ross Covington, Jessica and James Green, Christopher Griffith, Gavin Hanna, Cameron Hoskins, David Hoskins, Ryan Kriesch, Colby Miller, Samuel Miller, and James L. Wise, Jr.

THOSE IN AUTHORITY: The President, the Governor, the Mayor, the County Health Officer, County Commissioners, the County Attorney, and other elected officials and the judiciary (1 Timothy 2:1-4).

DISTRICT PRAYER CALENDAR: Today we pray for the Mt. Liberty United Methodist Church and their pastor.

GENERAL NEWS

PLENTY OF ROOM IN THE SANCTUARY — We have rearranged the designated seats in the sanctuary. We now have room for thirty households in each worship service. Assuming an average of three people in each household, that's room for roughly ninety people in each service. If the Saturday and Sunday services both get filled up, we'll simply add another service. There's plenty of room for you to come back whenever it feels right.

— John Collins, 3/14/21

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS — I have received a dose of the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at Auburn Pharmacy. (I got in before the rest of my age group because of my role as a pastor.) I know that some of you have now gotten vaccinated as well, and that some of you are planning on coming back to in-person worship now that you feel safer. That makes me very excited! I'm looking forward to seeing you. However, that doesn't change our policy of requiring everyone to wear masks in the church building. The CDC continues to recommend mask-wearing in public for those who have had the vaccine. Our current policy was set without an end date by the Church Council, and the Church Council has left it in place at present. Those two reasons are enough for me, but I'll also be wearing my mask because I feel very privileged to have received the vaccine already, and I want to show my solidarity with those who have not yet had the opportunity.

— John Collins, 3/14/21

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: April 7, 2021 is the deadline for scholarship applications to be submitted to the church office. Applications can be found on the church website or you may pick one up in the church office.

— Staff

SIGNS ARE IN! — Our "Love Kindness" signs are here. Send an email to office@abilenefirstumc.org or call 785-263-2623 if you would like one delivered by the youth group, or you can stop by the church during office hours and pick one up. (The signs are free either way.)

— John Collins, 2/7/21

EMAIL UPDATES — John uses a service called TinyLetter to send out blog posts by email every day or so. This way, you can keep up with their blog at revcollins.com by simply checking your email inbox. You can also reply with an email of your own and let us know what you think. You can sign up at tinyletter.com/jcollins11

— Staff

WEDNESDAY EVENING COMMUNION — We have a Zoom meeting scheduled for the Wednesday Evening Communion Service at 6:00 p.m. Here are the details:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bit.ly/38bf9qZ>

Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388

Password: 67410

Manually Dial In With a Touch-Tone Phone

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 937 0998 7388

Password: 67410

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

10:30 a.m. Recording the Online Service/In-Person Worship Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 4 - EASTER SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service/Online Service Available at AbileneFirstUMC.org

10:30 a.m. Via KABI 1560 AM / Facebook and Vimeo (abilenefirstumc.org/onlineworship/)

PASTOR JOHN WILL BE ON VACATION THRU APRIL 11

MONDAY, APRIL 5 - OFFICES CLOSED

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 - SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting Via Zoom

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

6:00 p.m. Communion Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins @ Homes

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

10:30 a.m. Recording the Online Service/In-Person Worship Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service/Online Service Available at AbileneFirstUMC.org

10:30 a.m. Via KABI 1560 AM / Facebook and Vimeo (abilenefirstumc.org/onlineworship/)

MONDAY, APRIL 12

6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees

7:00 p.m. Worship Design

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Peatling

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting Via Zoom

3:30 p.m. Power & Light

6:00 p.m. Communion Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

5:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil begins @ Homes

10:00 a.m. Parkinson's Group Exercise - Narthex

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

12:00 p.m. Church Office Closes

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

10:30 a.m. Recording the Online Service/In-Person Worship Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

8:15 a.m. In-Person Worship Service

10:30 a.m. In-Person Worship Service/Online Service Available at AbileneFirstUMC.org

10:30 a.m. Via KABI 1560 AM / Facebook and Vimeo (abilenefirstumc.org/onlineworship/)

MONDAY, APRIL 19

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

John Collins, Pastor — Mobile Phone: 620-252-9622 / Email: john@revcollins.com

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Wendy Robinson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries — Email: wendy@abilenefirstumc.org

Clark Williamson, Director of Music Ministries — Email: clark@abilenefirstumc.org

Pam Jackson, Parish Visitor — Email: parishvisitor@abilenefirstumc.org