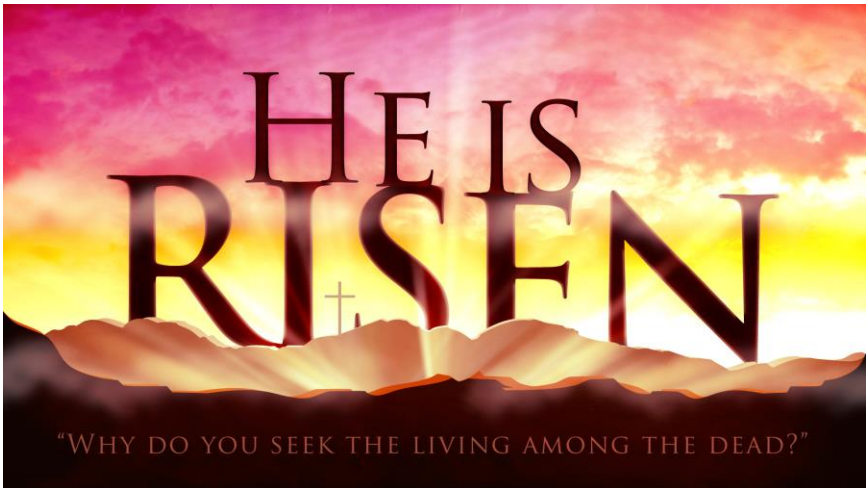
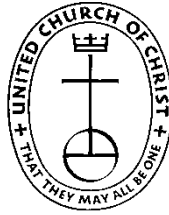


April 1, 2018 – 10:00 am

EASTER SUNDAY  
ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Our mission is to worship and serve God  
in our church, community, and the world.



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Fairview Heights, IL

Website: [www.stjohnfairview.org](http://www.stjohnfairview.org)

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Fax 397-1189

Please respond with words in **bold print**.

\*Please stand if comfortably able

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## WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: **“Jesus Shall Reign”** Dorothy Wells

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: This is a great and joyous festival day.

Come to celebrate amazing good news.

**MANY: We gather for worship in awe and wonder.**

**The tomb is empty; death is not the last word.**

One: Sing songs of praise, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

**MANY: God has answered our prayers with salvation.**

**Jesus Christ is alive and we, too, shall live.**

One: Open your hearts and minds to the risen Christ.

You are greeted by name and welcomed here.

**MANY: This is the day that our God has made.**

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: # 233 **“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”**

\*CALL TO CONFESSION:

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Let us pray

**We cannot truly worship you, loving God, until we recognize how unloving we have been.**

**We cannot truly live until we admit the many ways we have been dwelling in death.**

**We cannot know forgiveness until we honestly face the wrong we have done and the good we neglected.**

**We admit before you, that we have built barriers of sinful ways and thoughts that have injured our relationship with you, loving God.**

**Help us break down the barriers we have erected so we can experience new life with you today. Amen.**

SUNG PRAYER RESONSE:

**“Create in me, a clean heart, O God.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

\*GLORIA: #759

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,  
Three-in-One; As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: **“Joy in the Morning”** Natalie Sleeth

SECOND TESTAMENT READING: **Acts 10:34-43** Lay Liturgist

PSALM REPONSIVE READING: **Psalm 118:1-2 14-24**  
Page 700 in Hymnal

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL READING: **John 20:1-18** Pastor Rosemary

\*GOSPEL RESPONSE: **#236 “Halle,Halle”**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja. Halleluja, halle-lu-ja.**

SERMON: **“Looking for Jesus?”** Pastor Rosemary

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#245 “The Day of Resurrection”**

PASTORAL PRAYER:

PRAYER RESPONSE: **#773**

**Remember me, remember me, O Jesus remember me.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: **“The Holy City”** Stephen Adams

\*DOXOLOGY: # 780

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

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*HOLY COMMUNION: NCH Page 16 Selection A

Jesus said; I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, who has created the heavens . . . . .

With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify you:

**SANCTUS: #790**

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,  
the whole universe speaks of your glory,  
O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the  
name of our God! Hosanna in the highest.**

(Be seated)

We remember that . . . . .

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

**Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!**

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with the outpouring of you Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt, and light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

Alleluia! Fear not, I am the first and the last and the living one.

**I died, and behold I am alive for evermore. Alleluia!**

Sharing the elements.

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

**Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: #242 "The Strife Is O'er"**

**\*BENEDICTION:** The blessing of God Almighty:  
the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier, be with you all.  
**Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #236 “Halle,Halle”**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja. Halleluja, halle-lu-ja.**

**POSTLUDE: “Low in the Grave” Lani Smith**

**OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED – NOW OUR SERVIC BEGINS**

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*Ministers – All members of the church*  
*Participants in worship today:*

**Pastor** – Pastor Rosemary Captain

**Organist** – Sharon Banjavcic

**Lector** -

**Ushers** - Barb Whitaker and Wyatt, Janice Petroff