

Together we reach, transform, and equip people for a lifelong relationship with Christ.

Welcome To Worship

Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church

April 27, 2025 ~ 9:30 am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Faith never comes easy. Thomas doubted the post-Resurrection appearance and needed to see Jesus for himself.

P: How we are like Thomas! We sometimes think we need to see in order to believe!

L: How blessed are the ones who, never having seen, yet have come to believe.

P: Open our hearts, Lord, this day to absolute faith in you, that, although we have not seen the risen Christ, we may fully believe.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

*HYMN:

“Up From The Grave He Arose”

Hymnal 322

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

Refrain:

Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph 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! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

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

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

PUBLIC READING OF THE SCRIPTURE: Char Anderson

John 20: 19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ 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.’ ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ 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.’

²⁶ 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.’ ²⁷ 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.’ ²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ²⁹ 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.’

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ 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.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: “Seeing Is Believing” Pastor Jeff

ANTHEM: “Arise and Go to Jesus” Flute/piccolo - Karen Doerrler Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Pastor Jeff

*OFFERING WITH OFFERTORY PRAISE Hymnal 95

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:

Holy God, we are eternally thankful for life, and life eternal which you give us through Jesus Christ. With thanks and praise in our hearts, for all you have given us, we come and offer these gifts and offerings to you. Use them to help the church grow, and to spread the Good News. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN: “Easter People Raise Your Voices” Hymnal 304

Easter people raise your voices
Sounds of heaven in earth should ring
Christ has brought us Heaven's choices
Heavenly music let it ring
Alleluia. Alleulia.
Easter people let it sing

Fear of death can no more stop us
From our pressing here below
For our Lord empowered us
To triumph over every foe
Alleluia. Alleluia.

On to victory now we go

Every day to us is Easter
With its resurrection song
When in trouble move the faster
to our God who rights the wrong
Alleluia. Alleluia.
See the power of heavenly throngs.

BENEDICTION: Pastor Jeff