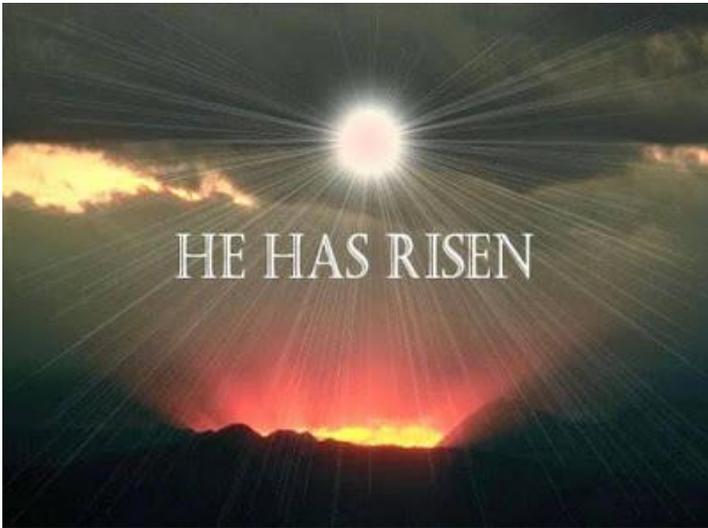


April 21, 2019 – 10:00 am

EASTER SUNDAY
ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



10207 Lincoln Trail
Fairview Heights, IL Telephone 397-6323
e-mail: stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com
Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Rev. Rosemary Captain

- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- LITURGY WRITTEN REV THOM SCHUMAN
- PLEASE RESPOND WITH WORDS IN BOLD PRINT.
- *PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.
- **NCH** IS THE NEW CENTURY HYMNAL

PRELUDE: **“Easter Alleluia Medley”** Gary Lanier
Stacie Pickens – Flute, Sharon – Piano

Stewart Landon

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: This is the day

**MANY: angels bring light into our shadows,
 and gardeners harvest good news.**

One: This is the day the Lord

**MANY: awakens us with unexpected grace,
 and the sun breaks out in song.**

One: This is the day the Lord has made!

**MANY: The day when life triumphs over death,
 when love pushes aside fear, when hope
 walks with us in every moment.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: **NCH 233**

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

*CALL TO CONFESSION:

On this day, as on every day, we know the ways in which we have denied God’s presence in our lives, with the words, the actions, the harm we offer to others. Yet on this Easter, as on the first, God heals us, God fills us with grace, God calls us by name. Let us bring all we have done, so God might forgive us. Let us pray together, saying,

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We think this story is so old, Imaginative God, that we cannot hear the astonishing news of triumph over death. We are so afraid of our own shadows, that we cannot see the Light of life which is streaming all around us. Convinced that there is nothing beyond these days we call life, we cannot sense your resurrection hope which is calling to us by our names.

On this day of new wonders and everlasting grace, God of our lives, may we be glad that you have not forgotten us. May we rejoice in the ancient promises which are proclaimed afresh this morning. May we turn with our questions, our doubts, our hearts towards Jesus, the Gardener of grace, who call us by name and pours resurrection love into us.

Silence is kept

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:**

On this Easter, as on the first; on this day, as on every day; God turns to us, calls us by name, and plants forgiveness and hope in our lives.

Alleluia! This is the good news!

Christ is our peace,

the peace we need,

the peace which will heal the world.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen. Amen.

***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: **“Ring the Easter Bells”** Joseph Martin

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

Lay Liturgist

PSALM REPONSIVE READING: **Psalms 118:1-2 14-24**

Page 700

EPISTLE READING: **1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL READING: **Luke 24:1-12**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

*GOSPEL RESPONSE: **NCH 236 “Halle,Halle”**

Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.

Halle, halle, halle-lu-ja.

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

SERMON: **“Wonder”**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **NCH 245**

“The Day of Resurrection”

PASTORAL PRAYER:

PRAYER RESPONSE: **NCH 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: (On Screen)**

***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: NCH 230**

"Come, You People Raise the Strain"

***RESPONSIVE COMMISSION AND BLESSING:**

**One: We could just return to our homes and go back
to life,**

**MANY: but we will go to rebuild neighbors,
and share the light we have received.**

One: We could just stand around and wonder where
Jesus has gone,

**MANY: but we will turn and, as he calls us by name,
follow to bring hope and healing to our
world.**

One: We could just keep quiet and not whisper a
word to anyone,

**MANY: but we will go to tell others of the good news
that Jesus is alive and in our midst.**

*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: "Jesus Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Henry Balcombe

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