



The Empty Tomb, Jesus MAFA

**Easter Sunday
April 1, 2018 10:30 a.m.**

**Epworth United Methodist Church
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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND LIFE

(Please use this time for preparing your mind, body and soul for worship)

CALL TO WORSHIP

~Ministry Matters

Come quickly to the tomb to see the place where He was laid.

Look! The stone is rolled away! He is not here!

"Christ Has Risen!" (vs 1) #2115 FWS

Just as He said, He would conquer death.

We can see for ourselves this awesome sight.

"Christ Has Risen!" (vs 2) #2115 FWS

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia! AMEN!

*OPENING HYMN **"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"** (vs 1,2,4) #302 UMH

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

~Feasting on the Word – Worship Companion

Living God, by your Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see the new light of this day; open our lips to tell of the empty tomb; open our hearts to believe the good news; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 25:6-9; Acts 10:34-43; Mark 16:1-8

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Let Us Rejoice Today"

with Sonja Selikoff

CHILDREN'S HYMN

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices" (vs 1) #304 UMH

CHILDREN'S TIME

Surprised by Jesus

SERMON

BAM! The Tomb is Empty

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

"He Lives" (1,3)

#310 UMH

LITANY FOR EASTER

~Roddy Hamilton (edited)

When the world was young at that first sunrise
and the new light held the promise of new days and fresh mornings

The Word spoke...

...When the Word spoke and creation sparked and the alleluias unfolded

the dawn was set free...

...When the dawn was set free the trees clapped hands
and the hills broke forth into song

fresh every morning...

...Fresh every morning the day holds a hope that this day is God's
and this day holds the promise

and this day is a new beginning...

...A new beginning is the song of the morning
that takes the shadows of night and paints them gold and green

for the earth rejoices...

The earth rejoices for stones have rolled and tombs have been emptied
and angels are whispering

and death has been conquered...

...Death has been conquered and resurrection has left footprints in the dew
that tell us he has gone ahead of us he is not among the dead

He has been raised; he is not here...

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God 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**

OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE *"Up from the Grave He Arose"* (vs 1,3)

#322 UMH

PRAYER

~Steven Garnaas-Holmes

God of Life, your risen Son has gathered us into the church, nourished us with his body and blood, poured out upon us your Holy Spirit, and welcomed us into your presence. Grant that we may receive the blessing of your grace, so that we may love you with all our hearts, and gladly feed your sheep in the name of Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

WE TAKE GOD'S WORD WITH US INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN

"Thine Be the Glory" (vs 1&3)

#308 UMH

*BENEDICTION

~some lines from Ministry Matters

Let us BE the Church that Christ is building.
Although we are seized by terror and amazement,
and though we are afraid to say anything to anyone,
let us recognize that Christ is STILL with us and STILL goes before us.
Dance, celebrate, sing, and shout for joy!
Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed! AMEN.**

*POSTLUDE