

Messenger

April 2020

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The message of Easter remains the same, even as our celebration of Easter looks a *lot* different!

Jesus died on a cross to offer us God's redeeming grace. God raised Jesus from the dead, inviting us to live by resurrection hope. The core of our faith has not changed! And even as we care for one another now through physical distancing, we give thanks that God is still with us wherever we find ourselves on Easter Sunday.

Like you, I am saddened that we cannot gather this year during Holy Week for worship. I will miss the children waving palms; sharing communion; walking Main St following the cross; and our voices raised together in praise through the classic hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today."

Yet we are called to care for one another, especially the vulnerable among us, by sheltering in place and practicing physical distancing. We will continue to do so as a congregation until we get the all clear. We can celebrate at home this month, then we will celebrate "Resurrection Sunday" when we are once again together!

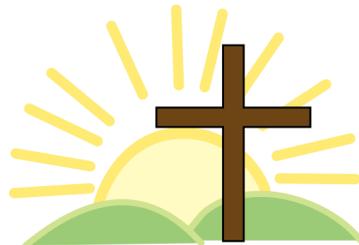
This month's newsletter is very different, as it only covers through the 12th of April. Watch for an updated newsletter shortly after Easter.

Inside you will find ways to be the church, and ways to find help if help is needed.

Inside you will also find the bulletins for all four Holy Week services (and a bonus service for Sunrise)! If you watch the live stream, you can follow along with the service. If you are not tech savvy, you can still worship at home by following the liturgy and reflecting on the Scriptures. Creative ideas are offered for each service, if such creativity will assist in your worship and reflection.

Friends, we are still the church, and together the body of Christ in the world. May we give thanks for God's presence with us as we worship, serve, shelter, and give thanks.

Pastor Amy



Worship



Worship with us **Sundays at 10:30am on Facebook Live!**

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/First-United-Methodist-Church-of-Springboro-202709196426644>

(If it asks you to log in, hit "not now." You don't have to have a Facebook account to access the site!)

Missed worship on Sunday? Worship videos are saved on the Facebook page to be viewed throughout the week!

Printed sermons are also available on the church website in the week following at <https://www.fumcofspringboro.org/media/sermons/>

If you need assistance setting up tech, let us know!

Holy Week Worship

(see pages 10-19 for orders of service)

April 5
10:30am
Palm Sunday
Matthew 21:1-11
"Hosanna"

April 9
7:00pm
Holy Thursday
Matthew 26:17-30
"At the Table"

April 10
noon
Good Friday
"Journey to the Cross"

April 12
10:30am
Easter Sunday
Matthew 28:1-20
"With Fear and Great Joy"

Daily Readings

Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11
Monday	Matthew 26:1-16
Tuesday	Matthew 26:17-30
Wednesday	Matthew 26:30-56
Thursday	Matthew 26:57-27:26
Friday	Matthew 27:27-66
Saturday	reflect on Jesus' journey
Sunday	Matthew 28:1-10

Church News

Virtual Office

Our church office has now gone virtual. The church building is closed until further notice. Please feel free to contact any of our staff. Mail and phone messages at the church are being checked on a regular basis.

Kerri Dome, Office Manager
fumcspringboro@gmail.com
937-748-2612

Pastor Amy
pastoramy@fumcofspringboro.org
937-748-1186

Doug Dean, Pastor of Discipleship
revdhd23@gmail.com

Kim Crosen, Christian Education
kimfumc@gmail.com

Brian Schlise, Senior High
BrianSchlise@habeggercorp.com

Katie Steele, Junior High
springboroyouth@gmail.com

For up-to-date information on COVID-19 and Ohio's response, go to coronavirus.ohio.gov

Financial Giving

The ministry of the church continues even as the building is closed. As you are able please continue to financially support the church staff and our ongoing obligations. We are all learning new technology and new ways to be the church!

Offerings may be mailed to the church or given online at www.fumcofspringboro.org/online-giving/

Children and Youth

Senior High—watch for texts from Brian for weekly connections

Mission58—watch for emails to connect over Google Hangouts

Children's Ministry—watch for emails from Kim for Sunday School lessons, ways to connect faith as a family, and times to connect remotely

Families of all Ages—"Family Move and Groove" is on Zoom Tuesday afternoons. Praise God and get moving to VBS Videos!

Confirmation—watch for emails for Sunday night meetings 6-7pm

Ways to Help

Outreach—call, text, email, or send cards to one another! If you did not receive an updated church directory via email or snail mail and need one, please contact Kerri Dome.

Support—reach out to your neighbors, family and friends and see how they are doing or if they need anything.

Sewing face masks—some hospitals and nursing homes in the area are willing to take homemade masks. Please contact Kim Perry for patterns and pickup information.
kimmeadows75@gmail.com

Easter Meals—Missions is still collecting money for Easter meals. This money will be given to assist families at The Pantry and SCAC.

IHN— Thank you to those willing to make meals and activity bags for the families who would have been at our church building next week. The food and activities will be taken to the families who are currently staying in hotels for everyone's safety.

IHN Milk Money— Money is needed to purchase breakfast items. Jennifer Fry is willing to do porch pickups. jennfry1@gmail.com

SCAC and The Pantry—both are looking for healthy volunteers, while following health department mandates.

SCAC Needs— SCAC is currently offering food boxes twice a week, at SCAC and here at our building. Ongoing needs include:

- *Breakfast items— cereal, syrup, oats, complete pancake mix, pop-tarts, instant oatmeal, breakfast bars
- *Sides—white and brown rice, rice or pasta sides, boxed potatoes, stuffing
- *CANNED pasta sauce and tomatoes
- *Canned meat
- *Peanut Butter
- *Snack Items
- *Cleaning Supplies
- *Macaroni and Cheese
- *Canned veggies and beans
- *Canned fruits
- *Juice boxes
- *Boxed pasta/spaghetti
- *Toilet Paper

Cash donations are always appreciated so that they can buy in bulk through the food bank

Other ideas to assist our community? - let us know!

Need Help?

Please let us know if you need help!
We have those willing to offer assistance!

Tech help
Grocery shopping or errands

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SCAC offers food boxes to seniors and families, households of all sizes! One box permitted per week; must show proof of residency within Springboro School District

Seniors– call 937-748-4352 and arrangements will be made to deliver to your house

All households– pickup SCAC Mondays from 3-5pm or at church  
Wednesdays from 5-6pm

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Warren County Assistance: If you or a family member lives in Warren County, has an income less than 200% of the poverty level, and has a minor at home, a one time check is available. Complete the application at https://www.co.warren.oh.us/humanservices/COVID19/PRCCOVID19ResponseApplication.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0cb51pG7P_U5C9fem8w1RYMHL3LkM3CVcGkNNJfGqJokZsvN1yxky-CKM

Online Bible Study

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesday from 10-11 am via Zoom
Contact Pastor Amy

Anxious for Nothing Book Study

Thursdays at 7pm via Zoom
Contact Jennifer Fry

A Word from Stephen Ministry...

How to Deal with Our Viral Grief

Often, people think of grief only in terms of loss through death, but we grieve—often very deeply—other types of loss. In the face of pandemic, we have much to grieve from stay-at-home orders and social distancing. We grieve missed hugs, financial losses, and the loss of physical community for worship, work, and school. We grieve lost vacations, sporting events, graduations, weddings, and funerals.

We want to do the right thing—lower the risk curve for everyone—but the losses hurt. But how can we process all this hurt and deal with this new, viral grief?

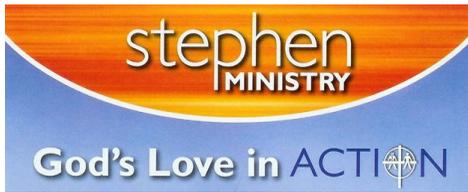
Recognize your feelings. Grief can stir up all sorts of uncomfortable feelings that need to be acknowledged. Feelings are neither good nor bad...they just are. We can't control what we feel, but we can control how we respond. The first step in responding well to our feelings is to recognize them.

Accept your feelings. For instance, Christians sometimes think it's a sin to be angry at God and therefore have a hard time accepting that feeling. The good news is that God's not afraid of our anger. God's love is infinite. God can handle our anger and every other feeling our grief might conjure up.

Express your feelings. Cry. Punch a pillow. Keep a journal. Pray.

Trust that feelings are unique to each of us. People might have the same source of grief but very different feelings about it. Trust that everyone's doing their best with their feelings...even you! Treat others' feelings the way you want them to treat yours, even if you might not understand them.

Share your feelings with someone you trust. Often, the most healing part of working through grief is putting the words out there; feelings often lose power in the open air. Talk with someone who listens without judgment, without trying to "fix" the feelings, and without telling you what you "should" do.



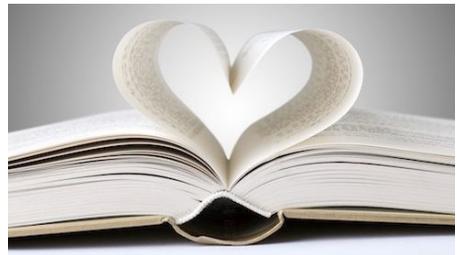
(And remember to be a good listener when others share their feelings with you!)

If you don't have that trusted friend or just need to talk to someone you're not quarantined with, call Zandra Woody (937-748-9713), Susan Raihala (937-238-1394), or the church office (937-748-2612). Stephen Ministers are trained in just this sort of good listening. We can listen over the phone, through video calls, or by email. Everything you say will be kept in confidence.

C.S. Lewis said, "No one ever told me that grief felt so much like fear." Indeed, we now see in our response to this pandemic just how closely related fear and grief are. God is with us as we wash our hands and struggle with this new—and temporary—normal. God is with us through this uncertainty, fear, and grief. God gave us feelings; let us work through them together.



Join together at noon each day to pray the Lord's Prayer as a prayer for our world!



Join Bishop Palmer each Wednesday at 12:15 pm on the West Ohio Conference Facebook page for a weekly devotional.

Thank You

Church Family,

Thanks for all the prayers, cards, calls, texts, visits, food and offers to help following my knee replacement surgery in January. All were so appreciated. We are so blest by having such a wonderful church family.

Larry and Zandra Woody

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, calls and prayers during this most difficult time of my mother's passing. It shows that our Church is family and is the body of Christ.

Sincerely,

Harry J. Hall II

We are all in this
together



April Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3: Savannah Thresher Martin | 21: Linda Tennant |
| 7: Jared Wade, Linda Leese | 23: Thelma Graff, Sidney Long,
Giovanna Roeder |
| 9: Brayden Stull | 25: Caleb Zimmerman |
| 10: Ron Best | 26: Mike Zimmerman |
| 11: Carol Finney,
Jennifer Showalter,
Mary Lou Grothaus | 27: Bain Rice, Blake Rice |
| 12: Kerri Döme | 30: Lauren Moser, Ron Wilhelm,
Maddy Talbot |
| 13: Diane McCrystal | |
| 14: Mary Fogle, Judy Cook | |
| 16: Tim Miller | |
| 17: Jim Ronyak | |
| 18: Norma Glosser,
Gene McCormick | |
| 19: Kelly Smith | |
| 20: Lindsey Zimmerman | |

April Anniversaries

- 5: Ron & Mary Fogle
- 9: Kelly & Becky Smith
- 19: David & Barbara Mills
- 21: Jack & Lois Eley
- 24: Dan & Anna Wade
- 27: Bob & Kim Crosen



*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary,
please let the church office know so we can add you to our list.*

Holy Week Services

On the pages that follow, you will find liturgy for our Holy Week services. Services include:

- Palm Sunday
- Holy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Easter Sunrise (this is solely at-home worship)
- Easter Sunday

These are offered to connect us as we worship throughout Holy Week! Follow along on the live stream, or worship when the time is convenient for your household. To prepare your heart and soul for worship, limit distractions, light a candle, take a deep breath, invite God to be present with you.

Hymns words and midi files can be found for most songs at www.hymnsite.com. Look under "Hymn Index" or "Faith We Sing."

Creative options are offered for each service. Try and prepare for them a day ahead of time! Coloring pages may be found online at

https://illustratedmin.s3.amazonaws.com/weekly-resources/PalmColoring.pdf?ck_subscriber_id=780206484

<https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/holidays/easter-coloring-pages/>

<https://coloringtop.com/holidays-coloring-pages/religious-easter-coloring-pages>

Finally, you are invited to **send pictures** of your worship space or household worship to Pastor Amy, so we may celebrate the ways we were still the body of Christ when we return to communal worship!

Walk with Jesus through the journey of his final week, his final hours, to give thanks for the depth of his love for us.

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Permission to Live Stream music from  
One License with license #A-733293 and  
CCLI # 1855588 and CCLI Streaming # 20104107

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**Palm Sunday**
**April 5, 2020****10:30am**

*To prepare for worship, get creative in making or finding a palm branch or fan or daffodil frond. Be ready to wave your palms during worship!! Place your palm branch or your door or in your window to celebrate!*

PRELUDE

WELCOME                    If using Facebook Live, please check in and say hello!

OPENING RESPONSE

One:            The way has been prepared.

**Many:            Amid shouts and waving palm branches,  
                         Jesus rides into Jerusalem.**

One:            For the crowds it is the way of celebration.

**Many:            For Jesus it is the way of completion.**

One::           Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

**Many:            Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord!**

One:            Blessed is the One who comes with healing and compassion.

**Many:            Blessed is the One who comes  
                         with forgiveness and mercy. Hosanna!**

WAVING OF THE PALMS VIDEO

HYMN                    "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"                    UMH #278

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer/ The Lord's Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES &amp; OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

MESSAGE                    "Hosanna"                    Rev. Amy Haines

HYMN                    "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"                    UMH #160

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

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**Holy Thursday****April 9, 2020****7:00pm**

*To prepare for worship, have before you something to eat and drink—bread and juice, crackers and water, cake and coffee—whatever you may have in your home. This service includes elements from a Love Feast, remembering the meal Jesus shared with his disciples, a meal that reminds us that we are all welcomed to the Lord’s Table and all offered grace. This meal is not the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN

“O How He Loves You and Me”

FWS #2108

PRAYER OF INVITATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 26:17-19 “Preparing the Table”

REFLECTION

When you think of a favorite memory associated with a meal, what comes to mind?

How do you prepare the table for special occasions? Does it mean bringing out the family china or pulling out the colorful paper plates?

Long ago, Jesus asked his disciples to set the Table for the Passover feast.  
*-at home, reflect on the meaning of the Passover-*

Every time we gather at table, for special occasions or ordinary meals, we are called to remember that God’s table is wide, where all are welcome to be recipients of God’s love and grace.

HYMN

“Come Sinners to the Gospel Feast”

UMH #616 v1,2,4

AROUND THE TABLE

When we “break bread” together as a church in our worship, we remember that Jesus invited folks to his table as part of his entire ministry, not just at the Last Supper.

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Jesus encouraged a deep love and connection beyond social norms. He knew that we humans need connection and inclusion. Jesus comforts us, saying "you have a place at the table" and Jesus challenges us to make sure we are doing the same. May all people know they are welcome in our hearts, in our homes, in our churches, even if we can't physically be with each other right now.

Jesus is no longer physically on earth, yet every time we gather around a table and we call him to mind, he is present with us in Spirit. And so too, our loved ones are with us. Especially those we wish were next to us at the table of grace today. Let this be a comfort to us.

*-at home, name those you wish were present with you now-*

We also want to call to mind, the people we cannot name, whose names we do not know. But we know they need our prayers and God's comfort.

After each petition, may we respond with, **Lord, hear our prayers.**

For those who have lost loved ones, ...

For those who are sick and recovering, ...

For those who are caring for loved ones who are sick at home, ...

For those who are caring for persons in medical care, ...

For those who are separated from loved ones, ...

For those who are feeling alone and isolated, ...

For those who are helping and are so very tired, ...

For those who are struggling to find friends, food, and comfort, ...

For those who are afraid, ... **Amen.**

HYMN

"One Bread, One Body"

UMH #620

SCRIPTURE Matthew 26: 20-30 "At the Table"

REFLECTION

The disciples never expected a betrayer to be among them. As they paused to wonder, "Is it I, Lord," let us also stop and confess the times that we have not followed the ways of our Lord.

*-at home, offer up your silent confession-*

*Continued on next page...*

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## Holy Thursday continued

Jesus, went on, however, to remind his disciples that God is a God of forgiveness and grace, a God of love and second chances, a God of hope and steadfastness in all circumstances. He did so through ordinary elements found on the table that night, bread and wine.

In a moment I invite you to partake of whatever food you have in front of you. This is not Holy Communion, but a remembrance of that meal long ago; a remembrance of meals with our loved ones; a remembrance of times when we gather in worship as the church; a remembrance that Christ is present with us even now as we as physical distant from each other.

### THANKSGIVING

Jesus asked us to remember him whenever we break bread and raise a cup in thanksgiving. This is why we call our communion prayers the "Great Thanksgiving." In this feast of love and comfort, we can call to mind things for which we are deeply grateful.

As we share together, take a moment to call to mind things for which you are deeply grateful.

*-at home, name what you are grateful for this night-*

Now, in thanksgiving and remembrance, let us bless this time together in prayer. Repeat each section after me.

Holy Comforter ...  
We gather in your name ...  
invited by Jesus ...  
bound together with your Spirit ...  
in union with each other ...  
Feed our bodies and our spirits ...  
with your comforting presence ...  
so we might be your comfort to others ...  
Bless this food ...  
and break open our hearts ...  
Bless this drink ...  
and pour out your love ...  
Amen ...

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**SHARING TOGETHER**

Now, as the community of faith scattered in love for one another, may we share our food as we share our faith.

*-at home, partake of your food and drink-*

**HYMN****"Now Let us From This Table Rise"****UMH #634****FINAL BLESSING**

And now may you shelter not only in place, but in peace. May the peace and comfort of Christ be present with you now and forevermore. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

*Liturgy adapted with permission from Dr. Marcia McFee at [worshipdesignstudio.com](http://worshipdesignstudio.com) for use in 2020*

Hymns words and midi files can be found for most songs at [www.hymnsite.com](http://www.hymnsite.com). Look under "Hymn Index" or "Faith We Sing."

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**Good Friday****April 10, 2020****noon**

*To prepare for worship, place before you a cross, nails, thorns—whatever you have around the house or a picture can color ahead of time that reminds you of Jesus' death.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ INVITATION

On this Good Friday, we gather to remember Jesus' sacrifice of love. Typically, our church participates at this time of day in the ecumenical Crosswalk, when our youth carry the cross down Main St, and we all stop to reflect and remember Jesus' final walk to Calvary.

Today, may the sacrifice of the cross take on new meaning, as we sacrifice togetherness to care for one another. No matter where we find ourselves on this day, may we give thanks for Jesus' love for each and every one of us, as we come face to face with the cross of Christ.

HYMN            "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"            UMH #298

PRAYER

**Lord Jesus Christ, take me along that holy way you once took to your death. Take my mind, my memory, above all my reluctant heart, and let me see how through your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen.**

As we hear the scripture proclaimed, may we imagine the scene.

"Journey to the Cross"

Song            "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"  
UMH #288 v1

Scripture      Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26

Song            "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"  
UMH #288 v1

Scripture      Matthew 27:27-31

Song            "Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?"  
UMH #288 v2

Scripture      Matthew 27:33-37

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- Song "Were you there when the sun refused to shine?"  
UMH #288 v4
- Scripture Matthew 27:45-50
- Song "Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?"  
UMH #288 v5
- Scripture Matthew 27:57-60
- HYMN "Go to Dark Gethsemane"  
UMH #290 v1-3

SENDING FORTH

**Lord Jesus, in praise we offer you our lives, for by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. May we go forth, carrying the cross of Christ, to bless the world with the same mercy and grace we have so abundantly received. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Hymns words and midi files can be found for most songs at [www.hymnsite.com](http://www.hymnsite.com). Look under "Hymn Index" or "Faith We Sing."

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**Easter Sunday**
**April 12, 2020**
**At Home Sunrise Service**

*To prepare for worship, sit where you can watch the sunrise.*

*Or find a picture of a sunrise and set before you.*

*This service will NOT be live streamed, but is a time for you to start the day in the wonder of the resurrection. Sunrise on April 12<sup>th</sup> is around 7am.*

**EASTER GREETING/ OPENING PRAYER**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead,  
victorious over sin and death, over suffering and shame,  
over all evil and wrong.

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead,  
proving that nothing can separate us from God's love,  
showing us how far that love will go, and suffering for the sins of the world.

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead,  
and we offer You our thanks and our praise,  
our prayers and our worship, our devotion and our service.

Guide us to live as people of resurrection hope! Amen.

**HYMN**                      "Morning Has Broken"

UMH #145

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 28:1-10

**REFLECTION**

*Imagine what it was like for the women on that morning—still in the grief of death, not expecting resurrection. No wonder they left the tomb "with fear and great joy!" Ponder in the quiet of this morning what the resurrection means to your life, and offer to God a prayer of gratitude for his love, hope and redeeming grace.*

**HYMN**                      "Lord of the Dance"

UMH #261

**BLESSING**

In the beauty of this new day, give thanks for God's promises and presence and peace. Go to live as resurrection people, proclaiming the good news of a crucified and risen Savior and Lord!

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**Easter Sunday****April 12, 2020****10:30am online**

*To prepare for worship, color and put in your window this morning some symbol of Easter—a butterfly, an egg, a brightly colored cross! Remember that as the date of Easter changes, God's love for us is everlasting. Rejoice!*

PRELUDE

WELCOME                      If using Facebook Live, please check in and say hello!

EASTER GREETING/ OPENING RESPONSE

One:        Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Many:     Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

One:        On this day of resurrection, O God,

**Many:     we come to celebrate your love that triumphs over death.**

One:        As we worship this day,

**Many:     the body of Christ scattered and sent,**

One:        we come to celebrate the hope of new life

**Many:     and your presence among us. Alleluia!**

HYMN                      "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"                      UMH #302 v1-4

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer/ The Lord's Prayer

OFFERING OURSELVES &amp; OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Preparing Our Hearts:        "Alleluia, Alleluia"                      UMH #162 chorus

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

MESSAGE                      "With Fear and Great Joy"                      Rev. Amy Haines

HYMN                      "Easter People, Raise Your Voices"                      UMH #304

BLESSING

RESPONSE                      "Go Now in Peace"                      (see back cover)

POSTLUDE

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[fumcspringboro@gmail.com](mailto:fumcspringboro@gmail.com)



Go now in peace, never be afraid  
God will go with you each hour of every day  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true  
Know He will guide you in all you do  
Go now in love, and show you believe  
Reach out to others so all the world can see  
God will be there watching from above  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love  
Amen, Amen, Amen

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