



*Emerge*

**The First United  
Methodist  
Church**



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**Oakhurst.umcchurches.org**

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CCLI #1588788

***The First United Methodist Church of Oakhurst  
Is a community of faith committed to Christ,  
seeking to learn the needs of our members,  
friends, and neighbors, and responding with Christian love.***

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

9:30 a.m.

\*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.

Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

**Hymnals: UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

## **WE GATHER**

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*He Is Lord*

UMH 177

**He is Lord, he is Lord!**

**He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!**

**Every knee shall bow,**

**every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is Risen...

**Christ is Risen indeed! But still, we are afraid.**

Fear of the unknown keeps us from moving outward.

**We remain locked away and closed off,**

**forgetting we are Easter People.**

Lord come, stand among us,

and show us the light of this new day.

**Breathe Your Spirit of peace into us, release us from our fears,**

**shine light in our darkness, so we may have the courage to**

**emerge into the light with Your resurrection hope.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE *The Day of Resurrection*

UMH 303

CENTERING PRAYER

**Creator of Life, before we were born You knew us. You shaped us in the most comfortable space, forming us inside the warmth of a womb. When we emerged, we saw light, yet the unknown future ahead frightens us. We timidly inch forward. Shine on us and show us the new life you would have us see. Bring the warmth of your peaceful presence**



## CONSECRATION

...great is this mystery we call faith:

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## BLESSING

...all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. Amen

## LORD'S PRAYER

## SHARING THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF SALVATION

The invitation to share God's covenant love through the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ is extended to all. Come and be filled with the body and blood of Christ, knowing you are beloved and rooted in that love as you go forth to love all God's children. We will serve by **intinction**. You are invited to come by the center aisle, receive a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and partake. Return to your seats by the side aisles. You are invited to reflect in song as all are being served. **There are gluten-free bread and juice available.**

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

UMH 617

*I Come with Joy*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God of life, we thank you for the gift of the resurrection that has opened our eyes to see the light of a new day! Our hearts are overflowing with joy as we experience the Risen Christ in this holy sacrament of bread and fruit of the vine. May your Spirit shine through us, bringing glory to you and light to the darkened spaces of this world. Amen**

## OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD...

Offering plates are available at each door as you depart.

You may also give online or by mail to the church office.

MISSION MINUTE

Mercy Center

\*PRESENTATION

*Alleluia*

W&S 3006

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We give thanks for the light of your resurrected presence among us. In an expression of our gratitude for the new life offered to us, we offer back our tithes and offerings. Transform this offering from dollars and checks into ministry for our community that other lives might emerge from darkness into Your light. Amen**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION**

UMH 202

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

**\*SENDING FORTH**

**\*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD**

*Hymn of Promise*

UMH 707

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.  
Unrevealed until its season, something yet unknown,  
which God alone can see.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.  
Adult Sunday School will be on the first level in Wesley Hall. All are welcome.*

***Our Service of Worship Has Ended  
Our Worship Through Service Begins***

*A special Thank You to Richard Ludlum for leading us musically as  
we worship this morning.*

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**

**Given in loving memory of Francis J. Kale by Ellen.  
Given in loving memory of George Lynch, for his birthday,  
from his family-Pam, Erik, Christina, Todd, Nicholas, &  
Samantha.**

## Our Leadership Team Serving Us This Morning

**ACOLYTE:** Robert Scott

**COUNTERS:** Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra

**USHER:** Paul Bradley

**GREETER:** Jeff Danielson

**LAY READER:** Judy Gorra

**FELLOWSHIP HOST:** Bonnie McNamara

### Words of Welcome

*Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining together with us, where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.*

### For Your Information

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly, with our streaming team, in the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available, for the comfort of parent and baby, in the rear of the sanctuary, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.



**This Week We Hold In**  
**Prayer...**  
Madeline Starkey

**Our homebound:** David Miller, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Connie Bruckmann, Madeline Starkey

\*\*The church has a team of prayers, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the office.

\*\*If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact Jill Hubbard-Smith 732-209-4563 or [revjimhs@gmail.com](mailto:revjimhs@gmail.com).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SCRIPTURE AS ART**-the next Scripture as Art meeting will be on April 28th at 2PM via Zoom. The focus scripture is Mark 5:1-18. Think of ways you can depict this passage. Poetry? Paints? Weaving? Dance? The possibilities are there for your artistic expression to shine through.

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** are needed for the following Sundays: April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, & May 26.

**APRIL'S COMMUNION OFFERING** benefits Mercy Center. Please use the LOVE envelopes for your offering to this mission.

**MERCY CENTER IS CURRENTLY SEEKING THE FOLLOWING:** canned beans, nut butters, no-sodium vegetables, brown rice, low-sodium pasta sauce, whole grain cereals, & dried fruits.

**SAVE THE DATE!:** UWIF is hosting a program, on June 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM. The speaker will be a geriatric medical specialist who will speak on impaired memory & dementia.

## Please Join Us In Mission and Ministry

### **Sunday, TODAY**

Service of Worship In Person & Online	9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - Downstairs	9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.

### **Monday, April 8**

AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.

### **Tuesday, April 9**

Women's Covenant Group – Library	8:30 a.m.
Naranon – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.
Daisies – Fellowship Hall	3 p.m.
Scouts – Fellowship Hall	7 p.m.
Lydia Circle – Wesley Hall	7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, April 10**

AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
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### **Thursday, April 11**

Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.
Chancel Choir – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.

### **Friday, April 12**

AA – Wesley Hall	8 p.m.
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### **Sunday, April 14**

Service of Worship In Person & Online	9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School – Downstairs	9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.

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**Pastor:** Jill Hubbard-Smith

**Secretary:** Joy More

**Director of Music:** Gary Farquhar

**Sexton:** Lisa Costello

**Streaming Team:** Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

**Director of Wesley Nursery School:** Noel Worthington