



*Emergence*



**The First United Methodist Church**  
103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755  
732-531-1150  
Oakhurst.umchurches.org

Like Us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOakhurst>

Follow Us on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

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.*

# Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 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

*Hymn Medley*

John Ahrens

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

Jesus' light is the only light we need,

**as we travel through life's mystery.**

Jesus' word is the only voice we need to hear,

**that still small voice that leads us to our destination.**

Jesus' presence is the only company we need,

**as we walk this narrow road.**

Jesus' fellowship is the warmth we crave,

**to help us on our way.**

So, open our eyes,

**that we see the signs of your resurrected presence  
in our midst.**

Open our hearts,

**that we may receive the blessing of your peace and love.**

Open our minds,

**that we may understand the truth and joy of Easter.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* UMH 304

CENTERING PRAYER

**Divine Companion, You show up and walk alongside us, yet we are blinded by our own grief and fail to see your presence. Open our ears to hear your comforting words in our midst. Open our eyes to see the resurrection all around us. Open our hearts to trust the transformation at work in the cocoons of our lives. Open our mouths to courageously speak on behalf of all people. May our actions share your light of hope in the dark paths we may be walking. Amen.**

ANTHEM

*Our Hymn of Grateful Praise*

Allen

Chancel Choir

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

GOSPEL LESSON

*Luke 24: 13-35*

Pew Bible, NT 90

Jesus is Alive!

**God's Word is alive for us!**

God opened the tomb for us to see!

**God, open our hearts for us to grow!**

HYMN OF RESPONSE

UMH 309 vs. 1,2,6

*On the Day of Resurrection*

SERMON

Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

*Awakening to Transformation*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

SHARING OUR PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

During this time, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.

After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...

***Lord, Hear Our Prayer***

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

\*PRESENTATION

*Alleluia*

W&S 3006

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have.  
They offered their company, their table, their bread.  
We offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts.  
May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among  
us, and may you bless these resources to the destinations  
of your ministry, O Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION** *Hymn of Promise* UMH 707 vs. 2,3

**\*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.**

**\*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***

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**

Given in loving memory of John DiNapoli's birthday in heaven by Abby.

**Our Leadership Team Serving Us This Morning**

**ACOLYTE:** Kitty Amato

**COUNTERS:** Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll

**USHER:** Ron Danielson

**GREETER:** Randy Danielson

**LAY READER:** Robin Whitney

**FELLOWSHIP HOST:** Pamela Lynch & Jeff Danielson

## 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...

**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 28<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**THE UWIF** has asked a geriatric medicine specialist to speak on impaired memory and dementia. After the presentation, there will be time for questions and refreshments. Please spread the word to your friends and family. JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>, 10AM

**APRIL'S COMMUNION OFFERING** benefits Mercy Center. Please use the LOVE envelopes for your offering and mark your offering, "April Communion".

**SAVE THE DATE**-The UWIF's annual garage sale will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Think of the sale as you clean up and clean out!

**LITTLE FREE PANTRY**-is currently looking for donations of canned hams, canned black beans, Spam, canned tomatoes, toilet paper, & canned carrots.

**MERCY CENTER IS CURRENTLY SEEKING THE FOLLOWING:** dried herbs, whole grain pasta, snacks, & crackers.

**HELP IS NEEDED!** On April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Retired Ministers & Spouses Association will be meeting here for their morning gathering, meeting, program, and luncheon. Help is needed for setup, serving, picking up provisions, & cleanup. Donated desserts are also needed. If you'd like to help, please contact the church office, 732-531-1150.

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS ARE NEEDED** for many of the upcoming Sundays. Please check the sign-up sheet in the upstairs kitchen.

## 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 15**

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

### **Tuesday, April 16**

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

### **Wednesday, April 17**

AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
------------------	-----------

### **Thursday, April 18**

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

### **Friday, April 19**

AA – Wesley Hall	7 p.m.
------------------	--------

### **Sunday, April 21**

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.

---

**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