

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

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April 16, 2023

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 16, 2023 – 10:00am
Second Sunday of Easter - Year A

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

When I Can Read My Title Clear
by Watts and Lowry
arr. by Mark Hayes

INTROIT:

He is Exalted

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

Be not dismayed, for Christ is alive, bringing hope and joy to our lives this day. Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER:

Life-giving God, we gather today to celebrate the resurrection of your Son. We are grateful for the new life he brings. We are grateful for the hope and joy he shares. We are grateful for leading the way, as he goes before us. Gracious God, today and every day, we offer you our thanks and praise. Strengthen our faith, that it may sustain us during difficult days and enable us to share your love with others. Open our hearts to new life and new possibilities. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

It's the Sunday after Easter; the lilies are gone.

And we are alone with our faith

Thomas said: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25b NRSV)

Easter is past, and we are alone with our faith.

On this Sunday after Easter, help us grow into the faith that we confessed and celebrated last week. Reveal evidence of your resurrection for the days when we feel that we are alone with our faith.

*OPENING HYMN:

He Lives

UMH 310

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mercy and grace, you understand us completely. Yet there are times when we do not understand this life of faith. We do not understand how Jesus rose from the dead. We do not understand how the resurrected Christ comes to us today. Moments of doubt and disbelief sap our strength. Forgive and restore us. Help us trust you and your love for us. And help us trust the ways of Christ. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus said to the disciples, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." Beloved children of God, you are forgiven. May this forgiveness bring peace to your souls, your minds, and your body. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

Our Father, 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Through the resurrection of Christ, we have been given new birth and a living hope. In thanksgiving and praise, let us bring our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

Must Jesus Bear This Cross Alone
based on the tune MAITLAND
arr. by Donna Williams

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

Holy One, we give you thanks and praise for your promise of new life. We thank you for these gifts. As we offer them into your hands, may they bring hope and new life to those in need. In the name of the resurrected Christ, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Leader: The Word of God
People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON:

“This Changes Everything”
Dave Holland

***CLOSING HYMN:**

Hope Of The World

UMH 178 (vss. 1,2,4)

***BENEDICTION:**

Members of the body of Christ, may the unconditional love of God, the deep peace of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

GOING FORTH:

Erica Kessler

Triumphal March
by William Stickles

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

April 16, 2023

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays

1st Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.
- Studying the Book of John

2nd Bible Study: will resume on Wednesdays at 6:00pm date to be announced.

- Wednesdays
- With Pastor Audrey in Spanish, 6:00 pm. In person at the church.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please send any new announcements to the church office email centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com to have it posted on our Sunday bulletin. Preferable two weeks prior or the Thursday before Sunday.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART: We have a new flower chart, please select a date to provide flowers if you would like to. The arrangements will be between \$25-30 make your check to Centennial UMC and put flowers in the memo line.

Good Samaritan Fund. Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated.

Prairie North District Lay Academy- Spring 2023, SAT., APRIL 28 - 8 AM - 5 PM, SUN., APRIL 29 - 1 PM - 4:30 PM, 10 hours of classroom participation needed for course completion., COST \$25 Box lunch (Saturday only), snacks, water and coffee will be provided.

BELVIDERE: FIRST UMC - 610 Bonus Ave., Belvidere IL

The worship team for the Spanish service has practice Saturdays at 1:00pm.

Volunteers needed to help with the children's ministry. Assist Dave during Sunday School. We need volunteers for Sundays.

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: Art Huenkemeier.

At Home: Carol Risenhoover, Carol Waxler, Ellen Dean, Pat Nelson, Aida DeJesus.

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, Ellen Dean, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Jeff Palmer, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera, Linda Gentry.

BIRTHDAYS

4/16 Erica Kessler
4/16 Doris Mejia
4/17 Ana Maria Solis
4/21 Ashley Vails
4/22 Neil Rote

Joys and Concerns

1. Sharon Sodergren had a joy to share. Her great-granddaughter is home after being in the hospital. Her young great-grandson had to go to the hospital due to a ruptured appendix. Thankfully he is in recovery now. We will continue to keep them in our prayers.

2. Kim Whitmore shared a joy and gave thanks to everyone for all the prayers. She is healed from her past surgeries and will not have to have any more surgeries in the future. She is happy and feeling well. We were so happy to see her and that she is feeling better.

3. Erica shared that Angel, Jose's brother, had a birthday yesterday. Happy birthday Angel.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

Pastor.audrey@ymail.com



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