

# MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## The Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday, April 5, 2026, 8:30 AM *and* 10:45 AM

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## Sunday, April 5, 2026 – Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of the Lord

*The resurrection is full of visual images: Women with tearful faces, a high-voltage angel, fearful guards, the empty tomb, and witnesses running off with expressions of fear and great joy. But perhaps there is one image that captures the Easter message to come see that Jesus is alive — and then go to him in the future and follow where he leads?*

### Prelude Music

**8:30am**      *Paraphrase sur un Choeur de Judas Macchabée de Händel*      Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)  
*Paraphrase on "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"*      Edith Campbell (1912-?)

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**10:30am**      *from* MESSIAH, HWV 56      George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)

No.1. Sinfony.

No.31. Recit.

*He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of thy people was he stricken.*      Is. 8:8

No.32. Aria.

*But thou didst not leave his soul in hell, nor didst thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption.*      Ps. 16:10

Mr. Michael Everhart, soloist

No.45. Aria.

*I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.*

Job 19:25,26; I Cor. 15:20

Mrs. Bethany Mingle, soloist

No.49. Recit.

*Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.*      I Cor. 15:54

Mrs. Sarah Boice Stecker, soloist

No.50. Duet.

*O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.*

I Cor. 15:55-56

Mr. Everhart and Mrs. Boice Stecker, soloists

No.51. Chorus.

*But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*      I Cor. 15:57

No.13. Pifa.

*At the sound of the chimes, all rise in body or spirit, as able.*

**\*Hymn in Procession**

**"Christ the Lord is Risen today"**

**UMH 302**

## \*Call to Worship

∞ Easter people, Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!

℞ **Hallelujah! Christ is risen!**

∞ Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

℞ **Hallelujah! Christ is risen!**

∞ God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

℞ **Hallelujah! Christ is risen!**

∞ Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen!

℞ **Hallelujah! Christ is risen!**

## \*Opening Prayer

*Said by all, with one voice.*

**In your hand, O God, we see the whole cosmos,**

**Heaven and earth reflect the mystery of your handiwork.**

**In your hand, we see a little child,**

**men and women are recaptured by the event begun at Bethlehem.**

**In your hand, we see the scar of the cross.**

**Sin and death are vanquished by your suffering on Golgotha.**

**In your hand, behold a new light, day**

**and night are transformed in the glory of Easter morning.**

**Amen.**

## \*Silent Prayer & Response

8:30am

**“The Day of Resurrection”**

**UMH 303**

10:45am

No. 18. Aria.

Mr. Dilworth & Mrs. Mingle, soloists

*He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: and He shall gather the lambs with His arm,  
and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.*

*Come unto Him, all ye that labor, come unto Him all ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest.*

*Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart:*

*and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

Is. 40:11; Mt. 11:28-9

## **A Message for Young Disciples (10:45 am)**

**Ms. Kim Rhoton**

*As the young disciples gather at the front of the church, all sing:*

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.**

**Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.**

*Due to the holiday, there is no Kids Praise today; the children return to their seats following the lesson.*

## The First Lesson

## A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn

**"The head that once was crowned with thorns"**

**UMH 326**

Reharm. N. Rawsthorne

\*The Second Lesson

**A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew**

MT. 28:1-10

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the

tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

**Lector:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Response to the Gospel** (10:45am)

NO.35. Chorus.

*Let all the angels of God worship him.*

HEB. 1:6

## **The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

*Said by all, with one voice.*

**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, the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

**The Sermon**

**"Easter Emojis"**

**Rev. Strandburg**

## **\*The Affirmation of Faith**

UMH 882

*All are invited to stand, in spirit or in posture, and to face the altar as the affirmation of faith is recited.*

Pastor: As we recall the new covenant made with us through the blood of Christ and the waters of baptism, let us now profess our common faith, as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, in this ancient and traditional question-and-answer format.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

## **\*The Sign of Peace**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*The people are now invited to share signs of peace with their fellow members of Christ's body. Extended conversation would ideally and most appropriately be reserved until the end of the service.*

## ***At the Offertory***

**The Offertory Hymn (8:30 am) "Up from the grave he arose"**

**UMH 322**

**The Anthem (10:45 am) No.53 .Chorus.**

*Worthy is the lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood,  
to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.  
Blessing, and honor, glory, and power be unto him, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne,  
and unto the Lamb, forever and ever.*

REV. 5:12-13

## **\*The Doxology & The Prayer of Dedication**

**UMH 94**

*During the singing of the doxology, any who wish to take part in singing the Hallelujah Chorus are warmly invited to make their way forward expediently, and take a place amidst the choir in the chancel.*

*A plentiful number of scores are available for use. Those coming forward will return to their seats during the singing of the sending hymn following the Hallelujah Chorus.*

**\*Easter Acclamation**

**"Hallelujah Chorus"**

**\*Sending Hymn**

**"Thine be the Glory"**

**UMH 308**

Hymn Treatment: A.M.V. Stecker

**\*The Dismissal & Benediction**

℣. Let us bless the Lord.

℟. **Thanks be to God.**

*The people remain in place until the altar party has retired.*

**The Postlude**

*"Toccatà" from Organ Symphony V in f, Op. 42* Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

*Following the closing processional, any wishing to do so are warmly invited to come forward and be seated in the chancel to hear the postlude. Please note that full organ will be used, so those with hearing sensitivities of any nature may wish to listen from the nave.*

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### *Leaders in Worship this Morning*

EMMA PURTILL AND SAMANTHA BAKER, ACOLYTES  
BRENDAN DEMICH (8:30) AND MATT BAKER (10:45), CROSS BEARER

MR. LUIS SOTO (10:45AM), SPANISH LANGUAGE LECTOR  
MR. DAVID SEITZ, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE  
MS. KIM RHOTON, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

THE CHOIR OF THE MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
MRS. BETHANY MINGLE, SOPRANO SOLOIST  
MRS. SARAH BOICE STECKER, ALTO SOLOIST  
MR. MICHAEL EVERHART, TENOR SOLOIST  
MR. KIRBY DILWORTH, BARITONE SOLOIST  
MR. A. MITCHELL V. STECKER, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY

THE REV'D THOMAS Q. STRANDBURG, SENIOR PASTOR



*Special thanks are extended to the following musicians:*

CARYN ROGERS, STRING CONTRACTOR & VIOLIN

KELLY MURPHY, VIOLIN - MICHAEL MILLI, VIOLA - CARLA BOUVY, CELLO

JUSTIN CARSON, OBOE - SUZANNE CAESAR, BASSOON

MR. BRENTON RAHMAN, CONDUCTOR

MRS. SARAH BOICE STECKER, CONDUCTOR

*The special musical offerings this morning were made possible through the generosity of those who donate to Friends of Music at Mt. Lebanon UMC. To help ensure that programming of this nature can be offered in the future, please consider contributing to this fund. Checks may be placed into the offering basin with memorandum line "Friends of Music"; alternatively, gifts may be made through the church office.*

