

Banning United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

GATHERING

Special Music and Fellowship	Cathy Mauge
Welcoming Friends and Newcomers	Marilyn Casey
Announcements	Marilyn Casey
Centering Words	Marilyn Casey
“Easter teaches us that life never ends and love never dies.”	
Passing of the Peace	Pastor Ode

WORSHIP OF GOD

Prelude Cathy Mauge
Lighting of the Altar Candles

†Call to Worship Marilyn Casey

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

P: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

L: Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

P: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

L: God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

P: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

L: Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

†Opening Hymn “This Is the Day” UMH #657

†Opening Prayer Marilyn Casey

Holy and Living God, On this radiant Easter morning, we come before You in awe. The stone has been rolled away, and Christ is risen— risen indeed, transforming our sorrow into joy and our fear into courage.

Breathe Your Spirit upon us as we gather. Awaken our hearts to the power of resurrection, that we may step out of the shadows and walk boldly into the light of new life.

Renew Your church with the *hope* that never fades. Make us witnesses of grace, bearers of compassion, and instruments of Your peace in a world longing for healing.

As we worship, open our eyes to recognize the Risen Christ among us— in the breaking of bread, in the fellowship of believers, and in every act of love.

With gratitude and wonder, we offer this day to You. In the Name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading - Psalm 118:1-2 NRSV Marilyn Casey

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”

New Testament Reading - Colossians 3:1-4 NRSV Pastor Ode
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn “Because He Lives” UMH #364

Sermon “You have been raised with Christ” Pastor Ode

Prayers Marilyn Casey

Children in Prayer (After each slide: In Your mercy, Lord, hear our prayer)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

..... Pastor Ode

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Marilyn Casey

Offertory Cathy Mauge

†**Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Marilyn Casey

God of New Beginnings, You roll away more than stones. You roll away despair and doubt, fear and failure.

On this Resurrection morning, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the new life we have found in Christ. Let these offerings be signs of our commitment to live differently -- eyes open, hearts awakened, hands ready to serve. May what we give today help announce to the world that *hope* is alive, love has triumphed, and joy cannot be contained. Use us and what we offer to keep telling the story: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER SUNDAY

(follow monitor)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty (*almighty God*), creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and for ever.

Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn “Easter People, Raise Your Voices” UMH #304

Dismissal with Blessing

Benediction Pastor Ode
Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World

Postlude Cathy Mauge