

Banning United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024

GATHERING

SPECIAL MUSIC AND FELLOWSHIP	Cathy Mauge
WELCOMING FRIENDS AND NEWCOMERS	Dan Mabey
MINISTRY MOMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Dan Mabey
PASSING OF THE PEACE	Pastor Doug

WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE	Cathy Mauge
LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES	

†CALL TO WORSHIP Dan Mabey

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

L: We know the message that God sends to all people.

P: God's peace, preached by Jesus Christ, is available to all through the Lord of life.

L: The one who lived among us,

P: doing good and healing all,

L: was crucified, dead, and buried.

P: But God raised him on the third day. And be glad!

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad! Amen.

†OPENING PRAYER Dan Mabey

God, just as You raised Jesus from the dead, You offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ. We rejoice and give thanks for this *good news*, which has been handed down to us from generation to generation. May we, too, be witnesses of Jesus, who You anointed with the Holy Spirit to bring blessings of mercy and healing. May we be witnesses of Jesus' suffering and death, and how he meets us in the broken places of our lives. Most of all, may we be witnesses of the resurrection, sharing Your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people. This is Your doing, O God. It is marvelous in our eyes. Amen.

†OPENING HYMN "O How I Love Jesus" UMH #170

1. There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth; It sounds like music in my ear, The sweetest name on earth.

Refrain:

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

2. It tells me of a Savior's love, Who died to set me free; It tells me of his precious blood, the sinner's perfect plea.

[Refrain]

3. It tells of one whose loving heart can feel my deepest woe; who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. [Refrain]

PSALM READING Dan Mabey

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 NRSV

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! ²Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the

tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; ¹⁶the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.” ¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. ¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. ²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

†NEW TESTAMENT READING

Pastor Doug

Mark 16:1-8 NRSV

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SUNDAY ENSEMBLE

“Christ is Risen, Alleluia!”

SERMON

“He lives”

Pastor Doug

PRAYERS

Pastor Doug

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

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer: **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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dan Mabey

OFFERTORY

Cathy Mauge

†DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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

Dan Mabey

Holy God, thank You for Your goodness and mercy, especially for the *good news*, of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. May these offerings, and indeed our very lives, become a witness to all people, of the salvation and grace, You bring into the world. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTER DAY OR SEASON

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.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Let us Break Bread Together"

Hymn #618

SENDING FORTH

†**CLOSING HYMN**

"He Lives"

UMH #310

1. I Serve A Risen Savior, He's In The World Today; I Know That He Is Living, Whatever Men May Say.
I See His Hand Of Mercy, I Hear His Voice Of Cheer, And Just The Time I Need Him, He's Always Near.

Refrain:

He Lives, He Lives, Christ Jesus Lives Today! He Walks With Me And Talks With Me Along Life's Narrow Way.
He Lives, He Lives, Salvation To Impart! You Ask Me How I Know He Lives? He Lives Within My Heart.

2. In All The World Around Me I See His Loving Care, And Though My Heart Grows Weary, I Never Will Despair;
I Know That He Is Leading, Through All The Stormy Blast; The Day Of His Appearing Will Come At Last.

Refrain:

He Lives, He Lives, Christ Jesus Lives Today! He Walks With Me And Talks With Me Along Life's Narrow Way.
He Lives, He Lives, Salvation To Impart! You Ask Me How I Know He Lives? He Lives Within My Heart.

3. Rejoice, Rejoice, Oh Christian, Lift Up Your Voice And Sing Eternal Hallelujahs To Jesus Christ The King!
The Hope Of All Who Seek Him, The Help Of All Who Find,; None Other Is So Loving, So Good And Kind.

Refrain:

He Lives, He Lives, Christ Jesus Lives Today! He Walks With Me And Talks With Me Along Life's Narrow Way.
He Lives, He Lives, Salvation To Impart! You Ask Me How I Know He Lives? He Lives Within My Heart.

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

†**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

POSTLUDE