

St. Lucas United Church of Christ

11735 Denny Road · St. Louis, Mo 63126

314-843-2100 · www.stlucasucc.org

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024- 9:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Victoria Hampton

Music Leaders: Linda Radick, Steve Radick, Mandy Boze, St. Lucas Choir

**Please rise as you are able—in body, spirit and voice.*

Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Solo *Was It a Morning Like This?* Mandy Boze, soloist

*Call to Worship (Acts 10:34-43)

Leader: Jesus walked the earth with God's message of peace, blessing all creation:

People: Abundant life for all!

Leader: Jesus preached God's love--justice for the poor, full sharing of earth's bounty; He rattled the authorities with

People: Hope and healing; forgiveness and welcome!

Leader: Worldly powers tried to stop him: led him to a tree and crucified him; laid him in the earth: a garden tomb. Three days in the earth, and then,

People: Like the seed which dies to live, so Jesus arose to new life!

Leader: And so let us celebrate the risen Christ, alive in our midst even today.

People: May we be hands and feet, hearts and minds of that risen Christ, proclaiming the good news of abundant life for all.

*We Welcome the Holy Spirit

Leader: This is the day you have made, O Holy One, and we rejoice! Come. Let the world know you dwell with us. Stir our souls with love and hope, and let our feet dance for joy on your good earth. Open our eyes to the hopes and needs of this planet, and all who share its life. Embolden our hearts to works of justice in your name. Be present to us. Empower us with your resurrection life. Let the world know, through our lives, that:

*Easter Acclamation

Leader: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Hymn *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* insert/screens

Time With Young Disciples

Scripture Isaiah 65:17-25, John 20:1-18

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK, APRIL 1—7, 2024

Monday, April 1	Church Office Closed	
Tuesday, April 2		
10:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Zoom
3:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Zoom
6:30 p.m.	Membership & Evangelism	Zoom
Wednesday, April 3		
1:00 p.m.	Open & Affirming	South Narthex
6:00 p.m.	Confirmation	Fireside Room
7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice	Choir Room
Thursday, April 4		
Friday, April 5		
Saturday, April 6		
5:00 p.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
Sunday, April 7		
8:00 a.m.	Confirmation	Fireside Room
9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	New Hymnal Celebration & Blessing	Sanctuary
	Church School, age 3—5th Grade	Sanctuary/Social Hall



Please feel free to take your Easter flowers after the 9:30 a.m. service today. Starting on Tuesday, April 2nd, the flowers are available for anyone to take home until Friday, April 5th. Thank you.

Hymn *In the Garden* #588

Sermon *Your Kingdom Come* Pastor Vicki

The Morning Prayer

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion Anthem *Christ is Alive!* St. Lucas UCC Choir

Sacrament of Holy Communion for Easter Sunday

The Invitation to Commune, The Communion

Pastor: What are we to make of this day?

When graves are opened...

When the dead awaken...

When life refuses to be contained...

People: Then nothing is impossible! Hope is never extinguished and love is never conquered.

Pastor: We celebrate you today, Jesus, because you have made it clear that death does not have the last word; because you have filled us again with hope and faith; because you have given us a vision of new possibilities, new realities, and new ways of being.

People: Open our minds to believe what we cannot explain; open our hearts to hope for what we cannot see; open our lives to live and to love in the midst of death and despair; let resurrection happen again in us today. Amen.

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Let us celebrate this irrepressible life; opening our hearts to the wonder of infinite possibility and unquenched hope, of resurrection.

People: We celebrate, we raise our voices and our hearts in worship and thanksgiving to the God who lives.

Consecration and distribution of the elements

Pastor: Let us give thanks.

***The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

People: Almighty God, thank you for touching us again with your life through grain and grape; for joining our lives with yours through Jesus; and for renewing resurrection in our hearts through your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Anthem *Redeemer* Mandy Boze, soloist

Morning Offering (*offering plates are available at the entrance/exits*)

Call to Offering

All: All of creation is God's gift to us, including our very lives. What we do with our lives and with creation is our gift to God. Let us be about the business of building God's realm, a healed Earth where there is enough for all.

***Doxology #382**

All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***The Unison Prayer of Dedication**

All: Risen Christ, Bless these gifts, along with our very lives. May gifts and givers alike be dedicated to your work of love, hope, justice, and peace. Amen.

*Hymn *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #345

*Benediction

*Postlude *The Hallelujah Chorus*

Prayer Concerns

Mary Ellen Cox,

Scott Schmidt, Joan Scovill

Evelyn Stolz, Cookie Tunze

