

MUMC At-Home Worship: April 11, 2021

Christ is risen ... still! In the Christian year, Easter isn't just a single day of celebration but rather an entire season. In fact, while we spent forty days preparing for the resurrection in the season of Lent we are invited to spend a full fifty days celebrating Easter! For the next few weeks, we are looking to the stories that follow the resurrection itself that we might truly live as people of the resurrection. Thanks for joining us in worship and on this new journey!

~ Pastor Dillon

If available, place a candle in the center of your gathering space and light it with this prayer:

Dear God, open our hearts to the joy of Easter even amid our doubts and uncertainties. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: *To God Be the Glory*, United Methodist Hymnal #98 [watch/listen here](#)

Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Reflect:

1. Can you identify with Thomas's skepticism about the disciples' claim (v. 25)? Why or why not?
2. Some have referred to the modern American culture as an age of skepticism. Do you think that is accurate? How might that influence some people's reluctance to share the good news? What one sign (v. 30) would you wish to see that might strengthen your belief?
3. How does our faith grow in times when we don't "see" God's presence around us? How can this group encourage you and help strengthen your beliefs?

Hymn: *My Hope Is Built*, United Methodist Hymnal #368 [watch/listen here](#)

Prayer Requests: Share prayer requests and have a moment of silent prayer

Lord's Prayer

Hymn: *We Are Marching*, The Faith We Sing #2235-b [watch/listen here](#)

Closing Prayer: Merciful God, we are amazed that almighty God would come and live among us. Help us to trust you and to continue believing that we might see even more how you are at work in the world. Amen.

(Blow out the candle)

To God Be the Glory
United Methodist Hymnal #98

1. To God be the glory,
great things he hath done:
so loved he the world
that he gave us his son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father,
through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory,
great things he hath done.

2. Oh, perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon
receives. [Refrain]

3. Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing
through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher,
and greater will be
our wonder, our transport,
when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

"To God Be the Glory" words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; music by William H. Doane, 1875; both are in the public domain.

John 20:19-31 (CEB)

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!" But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

Scripture quotations noted CEB are taken from the Common English Bible, copyright 2011. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

My Hope Is Built

United Methodist Hymnal #322

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the vale.
[Refrain]
3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.
[Refrain]
4. When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.
[Refrain]

*"My Hope Is Built" words by Edward Mote, 1834;
music by William B. Bradbury, 1863; and both are
in the public domain.*

We Are Marching

The Faith We Sing #2235-b

We are marching
in the light of God,
we are marching
in the light of God.

We are marching
in the light of God,
we are marching
in the light of,
the light of God.

We are marching, marching,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching
in the light of God.

*"We Are Marching" words and music are from
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