April 4, 2021

Leesburg United Methodist Church – CHRIST IS RISEN! 11 am - Sanctuary

Easter Season

The **Easter Season** (the "Great Fifty Days") begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues to the Day of Pentecost, May 23. In joy and celebration (dance!), the Easter Season invites us to focus on Christ's resurrection and his ascension into heaven. This year we turn our attention to the growing community of Christ followers in Acts. We see the risen Christ in their dance of joy and hope in Christ, and as they grow to be a healing, helping, praying, caring, persevering, and witnessing community!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: Rise and greet the morning! Roll away the stones of doubt and disbelief.
- P: This is Easter, day of Resurrection!
- L: Greet the risen Christ, who comforts grieving hearts,
- P: Who, with radiant light dispels our darkness.
- L: Greet the risen Christ, who turns dead ends into new pathways of life,
- P: Who welcomes home deserters, renews friendship with deny-ers, imparts faith to doubters, gives hope to down-and-out-ers;
- L: Who forgives sinners, extends mercy, and gives life to all who will follow. Yes, rise and greet the risen Christ!
- P: Alleluia! He is risen, indeed!

OPENING PRAYER

- L: The joy, energy, and life of the Risen Christ be with you!
- P: And also with you.
- L: Please join me in prayer...
- P: Creating God, Redeeming God, Sustaining, Risen-from-the-dead God: You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing And life-stealing in our hearts and in this world.

Come among us. Invite us to the dance of life - new life - in Christ!

Dazzle us with your brilliance, move us to awake-and-alive-ness so that we can be risen with Christ, living in Christ; bearing witness in word and deed to <u>the</u> Christ. Amen.

HYMN*	"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"	UMH 302
SCRIPTURE BACKGROUND	Mark – Jesus' Resurrection	
SCRIPTURE	Mark 16:1-8	
MESSAGE	"So, What Should I Do?"	Rev. Wishmyer

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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

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.

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

HOLY COMMUNION

Word and Table II (All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.) p.12

OFFERING*

"Doxology"

HYMN OF PROCLAMATION*

"Alleluia! He is Coming"

BENEDICTION

- L: Christ is risen!
- P: indeed! He is risen! Alleluia!
- POSTLUDE

(While we are still not permitted to sing indoors, feel free to speak the words or simply hum along!)

