

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Rev. Steve Heath, Pastor

April 5, 2015



HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES AVAILABLE- Please see a greeter or the sound technician.

~ Also, please take a moment to turn cellphones to 'silent.' ~

PARISH CONCERNS – ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *“Grand Chorus on St. Elizabeth”* by- Alice Jordan

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT *“The Easter Carol”* by- Anne Herring

THE GOOD NEWS AND ACCLAMATION **Mark 16:1-8 (CEB)**

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. But he said to them, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you." Overcome with terror and dread, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Pastor: The Lord is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed!**

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People: **The Lord is risen indeed!**

All: **Alleluia!**

***HYMN** *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”*

EASTER PRAYER

All: God of all ages and of all people, the shadows and gloom of Good Friday have been dispersed by the light and color of Easter Sunday. We rejoice in your power that turns our sorrow into joy, our despair into hope, our defeat into victory and evil into goodness. Help us on this Easter morning, O God, to burst out of the tombs that have trapped us: tombs of selfishness and sinfulness, greed and gluttony, scandal and corruption, pride and prejudice. Let now a new life of divine grace and human love burst forth from each of us this Easter day, through the grace of Jesus Christ, the Risen One. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Steve Heath

***PRAYER HYMN** *“This is the Day” (verses 1 and 2)*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS / TIME OF 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us and grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

OFFERING INVITATION

Pastor: When you're not sure what to believe, when you cannot fully believe what you have seen, God appears. Let us reach out to our God. Let us open our hearts. Let us give our gifts.

OFFERTORY

"In the Breaking of the Bread"

by- Michael Ward

OFFERING OF GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye Heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: God of seekers and doubters, bless these gifts so that the world may know that you are always appearing. Bless our hands so that your love might appear in the work we share. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Majesty"

by- Hayford/Schrader

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 15:1-11 *(Common English Bible)*

Brothers and sisters, I want to call your attention to the good news that I preached to you, which you also received and in which you stand. You are being saved through it if you hold on to the message I preached to you, unless somehow you believed it for nothing. I passed on to you as most important what I also received: Christ died for our sins in line with the scriptures, he was buried, and he rose on the third day in line with the scriptures. He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve, and then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at once—most of them are still alive to this day, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me, as if I were born at the wrong time. I'm the least important of the apostles. I don't deserve to be called an apostle, because I harassed God's church. I am what I am by God's grace, and God's grace hasn't been for nothing. In fact, I have worked harder than all the others—that is, it wasn't me but the grace of God that is with me. So then, whether you heard the message from me or them, this is what we preach and this is what you have believed.

SERMON

"That's Our Story"

Rev. Steve Heath

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In every time and every age, O God, it is good and faithful that we give you thanks, for your mercy is sure and your steadfast love endures forever. In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus, who frees us from darkness and lights our path to endless renewal and life eternal. And so, with all of creation, with all the needy and hungry ones, with all those who have enough and plenty, with creatures large and small, with sun and moon and stars, and with the saints of every age, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: 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.

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things. By your power and love you continue to deliver your people from bondage, thwart the designs of evil, show the way through the wilderness, turn hardship into righteousness, and reveal your hand upholding the just.

Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe. You came among us to feed and heal and teach, to confound the haughty, to confuse the tricksters, to challenge the wrong-hearted, and, in all these things, to give hope to those who long for peace.

We remember that on the night he was betrayed, having gathered his friends at the table, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. And again, after supper, he took the cup and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering our Lord's self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life. You give us words when we have none; you fill us with vision when we have the most need; you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour. Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace, Spirit of Love, Breath of Life. Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew, and teach us to proclaim with her, "I have seen the Lord!" In the unity of the Holy Trinity, in gratitude for this great day of resurrection, we praise you, God of all that is, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

by- J. Gordon

***HYMN**

"He Lives"

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Christ appeared to the disciples.
People: Christ appeared to us.
Pastor: Christ will appear again.
People: Let this mystery be one we live.
Pastor: Fashion us with Christ's hands.
Pastor: Form us with Christ's heart.
Pastor: Shape us with Christ's hope.
People: Let this resurrection be in our lives:
Pastor: Christ is risen! Alleluia!
People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (Hold the hand of someone near you as we sing together)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, children all are we,
Let me walk with my neighbor in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

POSTLUDE

"Darwalls 148th"

by- Gilbert Martin

*Please stand as you are able

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES AND RINGING OF THE BELL

Rev. Steve Heath, Pastor

Susan Fanuele, Music Director

Allyson Simpson, Acolyte

ATTENDANCE:

3/1- 85 3/8- 81 3/15- 78 3/22- 58 3/29- 85

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

Rev. Bill Wealand (11), Linda Cook (15), Edna Welch (17), Ed D'Amadio (26),
Bob Wood (26), Matthew Simpson (28)

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Apr. 5th	7:00am Sunrise Service on Lawn (weather permitting) <u>Continental Breakfast follows the Sunrise Service – all are welcome</u> 9:00am final Lenten Series in Fellowship Hall Annex 10:30am Easter Morning Worship- Rev. Heath/Communion Blessing of Food Donations for Halifax Urban Ministries
Apr. 7 th	1:30pm Mary Martha Circle in Conference Room – all welcome!
Apr. 9 th	9:30am Constitution Revision Task Force
Apr. 12 th	9:00am Diaconate 10:30am Worship- Rev. Heath / Guest Speaker: Claris Mac'Kie of FRC
Apr. 14-21 st	Office is closed. Should anyone need to see Rev. Heath, please call him on his cell phone (386 290-2652.) Thank you!
Apr. 15 th	6:00pm Trustees
Apr. 19 th	9:00am Pastoral Relations Board 10:30am Worship/Rev. Heath
Apr. 21 st	1:00pm Fellowship Executive Board
Apr. 22 nd	10:00am Knit-Wits at Deanna Wealand's home
Apr. 26 th	8:45am Mission & Service Committee

NOTES:

~As yet, we have not received any requests for FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE for April 12th and April 19th. For those desiring to order, please place your orders by April 8th -- by order form in the collection basket, or a call to the office at 386 253-1323. Johanna will be taking a vacation break April 14th through 21st. We wish to have your selections given to the florist.



Household Prayer: Morning

Heavenly God, our Father, I am full of thanks for a night of rest and for this new day and all that now awaits me. I go forward toward encounters with family and friends, work and play, and all that will bring me into contact with strangers, certain that you are with me. Lead and guide me in the way of a resurrected life. Help me to see the risen Lord today; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy God, our Mother, you are my comfort at the end as at the beginning of each day. You pull me toward the goodness you desire for me. I give you thanks for all that has come my way this day, and I ask your enveloping power to watch over me this night. Give rest to all your people. Wherever there is pain and struggle, may your holy angels bring peace; in Jesus' name. Amen.

~PRAYER REQUESTS~

God's blessing on America and our troops in active service and wounded, and their families; All veterans at Emory L. Bennett Veterans Nursing Home, Daytona Beach; Women Veterans at the ELB Nursing Home: Joan Pfeiffer, US Navy, Mary Ketterman, US Army; For His Glory To The Nations- Rev. Adam Culp & Family World Missions Ministry; God's favor for safety & blessings for all missionaries—Peggy Barker

Bonnie Stein, Lisa Simpson's mother

Jim Wentworth and daughter, Jamie- Cindy Blount's son and granddaughter

Mike and Pearl Buckel

Rev. Don Steedly- cancer- (multiple myeloma)

Marna McComb- (stroke, in rehabilitation home)

Rev. Don and Sharon Epps- (his Parkinson's Disease and other health concerns)

Jeanne King- (Meniere's Syndrome)- Diane Johnston

Amy Pagnac & Jace Grayson Pagnac- (daughter & granddaughter of Sherri Boyd)

Kathy Parsons- (health issues)- Lisa Simpson's aunt

Peggy Barker- (broken hip, surgical implant, replacement/physical therapy)

Don Jerpi- (Bridgeview Center, stroke) and Marie Jerpi

Debbie Jones and family (father has Alzheimer's Disease) – friend of Lisa Simpson

Ray Weinberg- (hospitalized with 4th stage lung cancer)- brother in law of Edna Welch

Ill and Elaine Mann- (moved to nursing home care)- relatives of Edna Welch

Phyllis Heath- (cancer treatment)

Jeff Schillings- (received a new kidney this week after 10 years of dialysis)- son of Tom Schillings

The family of Charles Sullanger- Matt Simpson's customer

Susan Sauro- (cancer)- customer of Matt Simpson

Ramona Nutting- (eye issues)

Allison Moseley- (cancer surgery)

Marlene Anderson- (health issues)

Jenny Campbell- (cancer)

Janice Page- (chemo treatments)- sister of Susan Fanuele

Hope Hill- (health concerns)- Lisa Simpson

The family of Rev. Bill Scott- Rev. Joe Stock

Tim Fonderlin- (malaria) and Diane, our missionaries in Haiti.

Rev. Diane Langworthy, Pastor New Smyrna Beach UCC, in death of her mother.

~Our congregation joins with other UCC churches in praying each week for those who serve in the mission field. Today and during this week we will pray for Mark Behle who ministers in Lesotho.

Lectionary Readings for the Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31



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