

ORDER OF WORSHIP - APRIL 21, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Al Gwinn

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

PRELUDE

Dr. James Humlong

Trusting Jesus
arr. Albin Whitworth

INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Without Seeing You
David Haas

The congregation is invited to join in singing when cued:

**Without seeing you, we love you;
without touching you, we embrace;
without knowing you, we follow;
without seeing you, we believe.**

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***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Joan Wooden

We have come to worship the risen Lord.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

We have not seen him, but by loving one another,
we show our love for Jesus Christ.

**We have not touched him, but by embracing one another,
we embrace our risen Lord.**

How can we truly know the One who gave his life for us?

Without fully knowing him, we follow!

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.

Let us worship God.

***HYMN 166**

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

***A STATEMENT OF FAITH**

OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,**

to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

UMH 70

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Adam Brewer

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Joan Wooden

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We haven't seen the truth.
We have only heard what others have said.
We worry that our doubts keep us from true belief.
We reject the rich inheritance you offer us
as we pursue our foolish ways.
We long to know the truth and to understand you fully.
Come to us, bringer of peace.
Forgive our doubts; show us your ways
and lead us into your truth. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The inheritance that God promises us
is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.
Even when we are consumed by doubt,
God is always faithful.
Even when we lose our way,
God is able to find us and bring us home.
Even when we are at war with ourselves,
God is able to bring us peace. Thanks be to God!

HYMN 420

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dennis Burrows

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir
Bob Hooker, tenor

I Believe

text, anonymous Jewish Poem; music, Mark A. Miller

I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God, even when God is silent.

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***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF BLESSING**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jack Belcher

John 20: 24-29

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Bishop Al Gwinn

"See for Yourself"

***HYMN 304**

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Dr. James Humlong

Crown Him with Many Crowns
arr. Jason Payne

This morning's liturgy:

Prayer of Confession - written by Mary Petrina Boyd. From *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017*.
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Words of Assurance - written by B. J. Beu. From *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014*.
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