

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

Service of Worship • Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026 • 10:55 AM

INTROIT

Beautiful City from *Godspell*

Al Strong Ensemble

Steven Schwartz arr. Al Strong

GATHERING

ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Emily Gonzalez, Pastoral Intern

*OPENING HYMN

UMH (red) 302 | Christ the Lord is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

WELCOME

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

WELCOME STATEMENT

Lucy Asbill

As our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to love and accept every person, Duke Memorial United Methodist Church welcomes into our life together those of every age, race, ethnic background, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, family or socioeconomic status, educational background, and physical or mental ability. In our commitment to the reconciliation of all persons as beloved children of God, we celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all. We invite you to join us in our faith journey toward discipleship in Christ with mutual respect, understanding, and love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mick Raynor

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting. Let us worship our good-news Christ.

*HYMN

UMH (red) 310 | He Lives

ACKLEY

Vs. 1 and 3

** Please rise as you are comfortable*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Mick Raynor

Gracious God, We want to be Easter people. We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the angels, who said, “Be not afraid,” but we are afraid. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray...

silence for personal confession

Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay.

Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Greet one another with signs of reconciliation and love.

The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

AI Strong Ensemble

Come Sunday

arr. AI Strong

PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN’S TIME

Katie Diaz, Minister of Spiritual Formation

RESPONSE HYMN

UMH (red) 327 | Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

Vs. 1 and 3

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Hope Ledbetter-Bock

**Holy One,
all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story; how death lost its sting. So like our neighbors all over the world, speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. Amen.**

*GOSPEL LESSON | MATTHEW 28:1-10 *The Message Paraphrase*

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Glory to God. Amen.**

SERMON

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

RESPONSE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (SUNG)

Sung Communion Responses are written by Mark Miller from The Faith We Sing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...a love that encourages us to continue believing, to continue singing. . .

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

...in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

WS (green) 3068 | The Lord's Prayer

MALOTTE

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

Give at dukememorial.org/give and select "Good Sam Fund"

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

You are invited to come and receive the sacrament as you feel led. Please use the available hand sanitizer before receiving the elements. Gluten free and individually sealed elements are available on the chancel rail.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

This Little Light of Mine

AI Strong Ensemble

arr. AI Strong

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

How Great Thou Art

HOW GREAT THOU ART

During the singing of the final hymn, you (yes you!) are invited to join the choir in the choir loft for the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Heather Rodrigues

*SUNG BENEDICTION

“Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Old Time Religion

Al Strong Ensemble

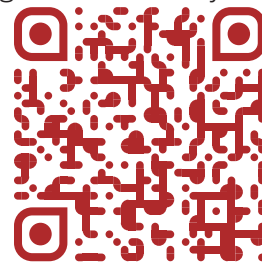
arr. Al Strong

Live Stream This worship service is being live streamed.

Love what God is doing in and through Duke Memorial? Consider investing in our church by making an annual financial commitment. *Give online at dukememorial.org/give or in the designated offering boxes.*

New? Tell Us More | We encourage you to take time to fill out the connect card, explore our Spiritual Formation groups, ministries for children and youth, and our ministries designed to connect the church to the world through service.

scan code or visit dukememorial.org/here



Fidget baskets are located on either side of the altar rail and in the narthex. These are offered for children and adults who learn best when their hands or bodies are moving or who can listen more attentively when their other senses are engaged. Feel free to use a fidget or two at any point during worship and then return them to the basket at the end of service. Additionally, there is **“Pray Ground”** space in front of the pews on the right side of the sanctuary. This is space in the sanctuary for our worshippers of all ages and stages. Feel free to let your child play in this space as they participate in worship.

Captions and Accessibility: Our left screen is dedicated to live captions to make our service accessible to everyone. If you have any access needs please contact office@dukememorial.org

Captions can also be accessed on your mobile device in English, French, and Spanish by scanning the QR codes below.



English



Scannez le code QR avec votre téléphone portable pour accéder aux sous titres français.



Escanea el código QR para acceder a los subtítulos en español.