

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Celebration of Worship – *Third Sunday of Easter - April 15, 2018*

PRELUDE..... *Choral Partita on “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Bring”*.....E. Ray Peebles
arr. Johann Pachelbel

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING.....Dr. Rhoads

INTROIT.....*Crown Him with Many Crowns*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Dave Williamson Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. Rhoads

† HYMN OF PRAISE“The Day of Resurrection”.....

*The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The passover of gladness, the passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.*

*Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
And listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
His own “All Hail!” and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.*

*Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning where e’er thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted o’er us, we journey in its light;
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.*

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 885.....Rev. Wilkinson

MUSICAL OFFERING (8:30).....*Softly and Tenderly*.....Rebecca Vacha, soprano
arr. Raymond Brown

MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00).....*I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing*....Wesley Bells
arr. Valerie W. Stephenson

† SCRIPTURE READING.....John 15:1-11.....Rev. Wilkinson
New Testament, Page 133 in your Pew Bible

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† GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.*

‡

**CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Billie Beck

JOYS & CONCERNS Dr. Day

MORNING PRAYER Bishop Bill Hutchinson

THE LORD’S PRAYER Congregation (speaks in unison)

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.*

‡

† HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”.....No. 381

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Dr. Goad

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*The Lord is My Shepherd*.....Ensemble(8:30)
Allen Pote Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGYNo. 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Isaiah 52:12.....Dr. Day
Old Testament, Page 836 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**THE LORD THAT GOES BEFORE YOU**.....Dr. Day

I. First, the Lord that goes before you is an **Abiding God.**

II. Second, the Lord that goes before you is a **Guiding God**.

III. Third, the Lord that goes before you is a **Providing God**.

IV. Fourth, the Lord that goes before you is a **Confiding God**.

V. Finally, the Lord that goes before you is a **Residing God**.

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”.....No. 128

(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Dr. Goad

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

BENEDICTIONBishop Bill Hutchinson

SENDING FORTH.....*On Eagle's Wings*.....Ensemble(8:30)
arr. Mark Hayes Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Toccata on "Thou Art the Rock"*E. Ray Peebles, organ
(Tu es Petra)
Henry Mulet

Acolytes: Harper Hearron (8:30), Mae Graf, Vivian Vekovius (11:00)

Crucifer: Ellen Douglas (8:30), Sanders Graf (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ **COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND NOON IN COUCH CHAPEL.**