

**SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
12 High Street, Brookeville, Maryland 20833  
April 19, 2020

*Second Sunday of Easter*

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sue Shorb-Sterling  
Music Director: Dr. Harry Dunstan  
Internet Technician: Brandon Savage

Brandon Savage is filling in for Rev. Sue this week,  
as Rev. Sue is on a much-deserved vacation.

*The Mission of the People of Salem United Methodist Church  
is to grow in Christian faith and express God's love to all.*

***Prelude—Music Before Worship***

**Welcome**

**Call To Worship:**

L: Leader; **P: People**

L: We come, knowing that our world is hurting, knowing that our world is broken,  
longing for something to be different, for something to change.

**P: We long for the transformation that Jesus brings.**

L: Spring is all around us, the world is transforming before our very eyes. Yet we  
feel isolated, lonely, alone.

**P: We know that God transforms hearts and lives.**

L: We come expecting God to transform us.

**All: Transform our hearts, minds and souls, oh Lord, make us new  
creations in your image.**

**Song—"In The Garden" (#314 in the Red Book)**

I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses,  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
The Son of God discloses

Refrain:

And he walks with me,  
And he talks with me,  
And he tells me I am his own;  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing  
And the melody that he gave to me  
Within my heart is rising (Refrain)

I'd stay in the garden with him  
Though the night around be me falling  
But he bids me go, through the voice of woe  
His voice to me is calling  
Giving Thanks For Our Blessings

### **A Prayer Of Thanksgiving**

**Oh gracious God, you have blessed us beyond measure. Even now, when life seems hard, we are blessed by you. Help us to see our blessings, to feel your presence with us, and to know that you are near. Transform our hearts and lives in this time, so that we may be closer to you, and that we may see you for who you truly are for us. We pray this, and the prayer Jesus taught us to pray...Our Father... (The Lord's Prayer)**

### **Introducing Jesus Christ (as well as God the Father and the Holy Spirit!)**

#### **Acts 2:14a, 22-32 (NRSV)**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them...

“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power, For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David<sup>[e]</sup> spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

### **1 Peter 1:3-9 (NRSV)**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### **John 20:19-31 (NRSV)**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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." 28 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."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Song—"In Christ Alone" (#3105 in the Green Book)**

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace?  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love, and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on his was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground his body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine,  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme or plan  
Can ever pluck me from his hand.  
'Til he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**Growing In Faith And Knowledge**

Message: "Lives Transformed" By Brandon Savage

Time of Reflection

**Sharing Our Concerns**

**Prayer**

**Offerings**

*Thank you for mailing in your offerings. Please continue to do so. Or if you haven't yet done so, please consider mailing your offerings to Salem United Methodist Church, 12 High St., Brookeville, MD 20833.*

Offertory

**Closing Song—"He Lives" (#310 in the Red Book)**

I serve a risen Savior,  
He's in the world today;  
I know that he is living  
Whatever foes may say,  
I see his hands of mercy,  
I hear his voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need him,  
He's always near

Refrain:

He lives (he lives), He lives (he lives)  
Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me, And talks with me  
Along life's narrow way.  
He lives (he lives)  
He lives (he lives)  
Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives  
He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me  
I see his loving care,  
And though my heart grows weary,  
I never will despair  
I know that he is leading  
Through all the stormy blast  
The day of his appearing  
Will come at last. (Refrain)

Rejoice, rejoice oh Christian,  
Lift up your voice and sing,  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek him,  
The help of all who find;  
None other is so loving,  
So good and kind. (Refrain)

Sending Forth Blessing

**Congregational Response—"He Lives" [Refrain] (#310 in the Red Book)**

He lives (he lives), He lives (he lives)  
Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me, And talks with me  
Along life's narrow way.  
He lives (he lives)  
He lives (he lives)  
Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives  
He lives within my heart.