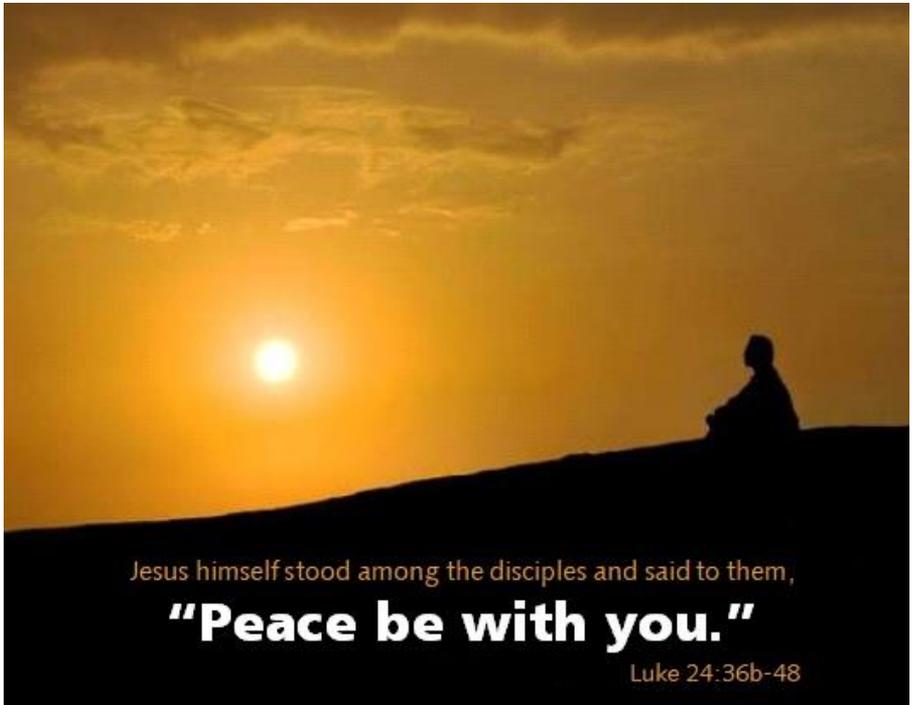


Wesley United Methodist Church

April 18, 2021



Gretchen Nelson, Pastor
Sylvia Krisnow, Secretary

Jerry Sowers, Minister of Music
Cynthia Campbell, Accompanist

Members of Wesley, Ministers

**The Vision of Wesley United Methodist Church is to serve
all people with the love of Jesus Christ.**

Order of Worship – 10:00 A.M. Service

Gather and Spend Time with God Together

Preparing your home for Worship

Create a space that brings reminders of God's presence. Candles. Colorful flowers. Pictures. Fill your space with reminders of Easter Resurrection. Ask everyone in your home for suggestions. Before the gathering time: play music, turn off devices not used for worship, start to pay attention to your breath as a gift from God. Pray.

Welcome and Orientation

Centering our attention on God's Holy Presence

Invocation

Creator, we give you thanks for all that you are and all that you bring to us within your creation. In Jesus, you placed the gospel in the Center of the Sacred Circle through which all creation is related. On this Native American Ministries Sunday show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen.

Gathering Centering Music

Let the music fill your hearts and spirits becoming aware of God welcoming you in love.

Call to Worship

One: Christ the Lord is Risen today!

All: Alleluia

One: Every part of this earth is sacred.

All: Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy.

One: The rocky crest, the meadow, the beasts and all the people, all belong to the same family. Teach your children that the earth is our mother.

All: Whatever befalls the earth befalls the children of the earth. We are part of the earth, and the earth is a part of us.

One: The rivers are our brothers; they quench our thirst.

All: The perfumed flowers are our sisters, the air is precious, for all of us share the same breath.

One: The wind that gave our grandparents breath also receives their last sigh.

All: The wind gave our children the spirit of life.

One: This we know, the earth does not belong to us.

All: We belong to the earth.

All: Like the blood which unites one family, all things are connected.

One: Our God is the same God, whose compassion is equal for all.

All: For we did not weave the web of life. We are merely a strand in it.

One: Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves.

All: Let us give thanks for the web and the circle that connects us. Thanks be to God, the God of all.

One: Christ the Lord is Risen today!

All: Alleluia

Singing Easter Praises “Thine Be the Glory” UMH 308

1. Thine be the glory, risen
conquering Son; endless is the
victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled
the stone away, kept the folded
grave clothes where Thy body lay

Refrain: Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen
from the tomb; lovingly, He
greeted thee, scatters fear and
gloom. Let the church with
gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For our Lord now liveth;
Death hath lost its sting

Refrain: Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

3. No more we doubt Thee
Glorious Prince of life
Life is naught without Thee
Aid us in our strife
Make us more than conquerors
Through Thy deathless love
Bring us safe through Jordan
To Thy home above

Refrain: Thine be the glory,
Risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

Glory Sightings

Witness to God's faithfulness and love in the world. You are invited to share where have you witnessed good news. Raise a hand, write in the Facebook Comments, add into Zoom Chat.

Discipleship Moment for Thanksgiving.

Proclamation and Response

“Day by day, as they spent much time together in temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts...”

Acts 2:46

Special Music/Anthem

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

Meditation

Pastor Gretcen Nelson

Minds Open

Opened for Understanding

Are you ready to have your minds opened?

Sharing Alleluias

Leader: “Alleluia! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns!”

Revelation 19:6

Alleluia is not just a word, it is a way of living...

ALL: How many ways can we share ‘alleluia!’?

Leader: When the bread is divided,

ALL: alleluia

Leader: When the table is set,

ALL: alleluia

Leader: When the hungry are fed,

ALL: alleluia

Leader: When peace is celebrated,

ALL: alleluia

Leader: When communities are brought together,

ALL: alleluia

Leader: When neighbours love each other,

ALL: alleluia

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia! Christ lives!

Sharing Christ's Peace

During this season of Spatial Distancing, practicing Christ's Peace is an witness of God's shalom. Cross your arms or press hands together at your heart, bow to your companion while keep eye contact. Offer this is similar greeting "The Christ in me greets the Christ in you. Abundant peace." Use your social media and phones to send Christ's peace into the world.

Break Open Our Hearts With Prayer

As we share in prayer today you are encouraged to pray aloud your joys and concerns. Complete your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy" and all the people respond "Hear our prayer". (You are invited to write your prayers in the Chat or Comment feed. Also please email them to the church office so the Prayer Team may continue to pray with you during the week).

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 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.

Offering

Giving is a spiritual practice of our faith. Sharing God's Good News through mission and ministry continue even as we are physically separate. Keep your covenant tithe, pledge, and offering with God. Consider healthy ways to be in service with your gifts and skills.

Musical Offering

During this musical act of praise, you are encouraged to praise God with your gifts. Wherever you are – lift up your hands, sway, dance, let the spirit of God move you (on screen or off).

Thanksgiving and Communion

Invitation to Christ's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: 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.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and
death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave
it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come
again.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

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

ALL: Amen

Sharing and Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Praise God

Hymn of Praise

“Christ is Alive”

UMH 318

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death, shall never die.

4 In every insult, rift and war,
where color, scorn or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and dwell in every place and time.

5 Christ is alive, and comes to
bring good news to this and every
age, till earth and all creation ring
with joy, with justice, love and
praise.

3 Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human
pains, but daily in the midst of life,
our Savior in the God-head reigns.

Blessing and Commission (Adapted from Colossians 2:6)

As God has loved you, go forth and love the circle of life created by God's hand. As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in Christ. May you be a blessing to all whose paths cross your own. Amen.

—The Rev. Anita Phillips, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

Postlude

Announcements and Fellowship

Prayers and liturgies today:

Church of the Apostles, a mission of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia. United Methodist Book of Worship INSPIRED BY ORATION OF CHIEF SEATTLE, NATIVE AMERICAN, U.S.A., 19TH CENT. Easter Statement of Faith by Roddy Hamilton posted on Listening newkilpatrickblog.typepad.com/nk-blogging/mucky-paws. All music used within CCLI#752546

Remember in our Prayers

Concerns: Amy Stanley, Donna Page, Rick Giles, Sylvia Krisnow, Mason Allen, Matthew Swartz, Kath, Kenny Crocker, Ashley Stanley, Rosemary Parks, Eli Sweeney, Don and Pat Brookman, Ann Wilson, Billie Jean, Vicky Morgan, Jim McKirdy, Ed Boyd, Mike Mee, Patty Bumgarner, Crystal Radford, Tommy, Ron, Carol Beard, Joann Walsh, Grace Burnell, Freta Lamb, Joella, Joseph Gilday, Abby, Amber Stinson, Bill Mee, Zach Perkins, Caleb Coates, Zeb Cope, Ramona Gemeinhart, Pete Stone, Karen Bowers, Janice Crumpton, Jeff Birdsall, Kevin Lykins, Joe Ames, Nina Winfree, Barbara Greene, Ben Stanley, Susan Nichols, Jo and Buddy Carlisle.

Other Concerns: All teachers and students returning to the classroom; the Coronavirus; the tragedies occurring in our country and around the world; police officers and first responders; all who are grieving; our seniors; our church and the entire United Methodist Church; recovery from addiction; young adults needing a closer walk with Christ; those awaiting test results; healing for those in pain.

Nation and World: Our nation, leaders, military, deployed troops and their families.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine

Birthdays/Anniversaries: 04/22 Nancy Houston, Abby Roberson

We at Wesley are glad you are here and invite you to worship with us often. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider Wesley. Pastor Gretchen would be happy to talk with you about it.

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Nancy Houston in celebration of Clayton's 17th birthday, Brock's birthday, and Nancy's 75th birthday.



The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Patricia Fitzgerald in honor of her daughter, Amanda Levy's, birthday.

Announcements

Today we welcome Miriam Reece, her daughter, Helen, and her son, Joey, longtime friends of Annie McCormick, as we give thanks for her discipleship as a steward and follower of Christ with the community of Wesley UMC.

Creation Care-April is Creation Care Month encompassing Earth Day observed on the 22nd. Give thanks and praise God with intentional focus on caring for God's miraculous creation. Here are a few thoughts on how to express faithful care of God's creation: Clean neighborhood litter. Plant something to share. Pray in a garden. Advocate for clean water and air. Review personal consumption of disposable products. Discover how your community leaders look after the natural world. Learn about a part of nature you did not know before.

Praise God for this wondrous diversity and interconnectedness of creation. Take time to explore our relationship within and among such. Many thanks to the teams who have engaged in neighborhood cleanings through the first quarter and to Jack's leadership with the Green Team. For more visit umccreationcare.org

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Today is one of our denomination's six special ministry focus and offering Sundays. The Native American Ministries Sunday offering equips and empowers Native American pastors, congregations, and seminary students to do what only they are called to do: authentically worship and serve Jesus. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in this conference and half support the work of Native American United Methodist ministries nationally. With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this Special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are supported in their ministries. This Special Sunday was officially recognized in 1988 and has been celebrated on the Third Sunday of Easter since 1989.

The First Quarter Giving Statements will be on the Information Counter next to the Sanctuary April 4-25. You can see your giving statements online at <https://onrealm.org/WesleyUnitedMet/Signin> or pick yours up (if during Church office hours Monday-Thursday from 9 AM to 12 noon – call first to be sure Sylvia is there: 757-838-3044). If you want me to mail or email your statement to you, just let me know. Kathann Montague, Financial Secretary, 757-722-8744. kdm8989@cox.net.

Counters:

April 18 – Becky Morris/Donna Turley
 April 25 and May 2 – Clyde Gumbert/Stephanie Eitzen

HELP Food Pantry Update: The Food Pantry is well stocked, but there is still a need for **powdered milk and fruit juices (individual packs or regular plastic containers)**. The donations are delivered monthly. Contact person: Sherry Moore

Scriptures for April 25: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

As of 18 April 2021

Sun.	18	10:00 AM Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook
Mon.	19	5:00 PM Prayer Time on Facebook
Tues.	20	5:00 PM Prayer Time on Facebook
Wed.	21	5:00 PM Prayer Time on Facebook
Thur.	22	5:00 PM Prayer Time on Facebook
Fri.	23	
Sat.	24	
Sun.	25	10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service – In-Person, Zoom or Facebook

CHURCH ATTENDANCE April 11: 19 In-person/20 on Zoom/33 on Facebook

OFFERING Received: \$3,245.00 Needed each week: \$4,878.00

Secretary Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Phone: 757-838-3044

Fax: 757-838-1663;

Address: 2510 N. Armistead Avenue, Hampton VA 23666-1506

Pastor Gretchen Nelson: Cell Phone 804-896 -6785

email: gretchennelson@vaumc.org