



# West River United Church

*... seeking, sharing, celebrating abundant life in Christ*



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

Andrea Rogers

and all members of West River United Church

First Sunday after Easter Sunday, April 28, 2019

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*Bulletins today are in memory of Beulah Sherren always remembered by husband Ray, children Alan, Gayle, Cathy, Dawn, Pamela and families.*

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## PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME\*

ONE: Look around for signs of life! Look around for signs of joy! Let us share these signs with one another as we pass the peace of Christ.

♪ **'I Can Feel You Near Me God' MV 48** (*projected*)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE\*\*\*

ONE: The light of Christ shines as a promise of love. For this we give thanks.  
Hallelujah!

♪ **'Open Our Hearts' MV 21** (*projected*)

CALL TO WORSHIP *please stand, as you are able\**

ONE: Even during our questions.

**ALL: We will praise the Lord.**

ONE: Even with fears of what might be.

**ALL: We will praise God for God's mighty deeds,  
according to God's surpassing greatness.**

ONE: We come with faith that is growing despite this.

**ALL: Praise God with song and dance.**

ONE: Let us offer worship and praise to the living God,  
the Risen Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Let everything that breathes praise God. Praise God!**

♪ 'Rejoice the Lord is King' – VU 213 vs 1 & 4 (*projected*)

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER\*\* (*in unison*)

**ALL: God of love and life,  
may the message of resurrection  
guide us into hope this day  
so that we might embrace our world of chaos and beauty  
with courage and love. Amen.  
Together, we pray as Jesus taught us saying  
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by 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,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING\*\*\*

ONE: We have heard the stories of resurrection; we have been invited into the story ourselves. Let us offer our gifts that others might also come to experience the power of Christ's resurrection.

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

♪ 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' – VU 541 (*projected*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER\*\* (*in unison*)

**ALL: Creator of goodness and beauty, we offer our gifts to you.  
Thank you for all you give us. Grant us courage and wisdom to use  
Your gifts wisely. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

♪ 'Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!' – MV 121 vs 1 & 5(*projected*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION\* (*in unison*)

**ALL: Ever patient and loving God, the excitement and joy of Easter have faded, and our doubts and fears are creeping in again. We somehow need to see to believe. We long for the peace that Jesus breathed on his disciples, but feel too vulnerable and afraid to ask. We long to affirm with Thomas: "My Lord and my God," but we sometimes lack the courage. Forgive us our doubts, our fears, and our reluctance to witness to you and to the Risen Jesus. We pray for the courage and grace of those first disciples who overcame their fear and doubt to become mighty witnesses. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE\*

**ONE: Hear the good news, God accepts us as we are.**

**ALL: You accept us just as we are. We give you thanks and praise. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

**PSALM 150 VU 874** (*New Revised Standard Version*)

♪ **Praise to God, your praises show, hallelujah!**

**ONE: Praise God in the holy temple!**

**ALL: Praise God for mighty deeds!**

**ONE: Praise God for bountiful mercies,**

**ALL: Praise God who meets all our needs!**

♪ **Praise to God, your praises show, hallelujah!**

**ONE: Praise God with sound of trumpet!**

**ALL: Praise God with lute and harp!**

**ONE: Praise God with timbrel and dancing!**

**ALL: Praise God wherever you are!**

♪ **Praise to God, your praises show, hallelujah!**

ONE: Praise God with holy cymbals!

ALL: **Praise God with strings and with pipes!**

ONE: Praise God with clash of cymbals!

ALL: **Praise God with all your might!**

♪ **Praise to God, your praises show, hallelujah!**

**JOHN 20:19-31** (*New Revised Standard Version*)

<sup>19</sup> 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." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> 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." <sup>26</sup> 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." <sup>27</sup> 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." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> 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." <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

**HYMN VU 211 'Crown Him with Many Crowns'** (*projected*)

♪ **'And When You Call for Me' – MV 96** (*projected*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**HYMN VU 330 'Jesus Shall Reign' (*projected*)**

BENEDICTION\* (*in unison*)

**ALL: May God who is always with us, fill you with faith and courage.**

**May the Risen One fill you with peace and joy, that you may affirm your faith.**

**May the Spirit be breathed upon you and give you peace. Amen.**

♪ **'You Shall Go Our with Joy' – VU 884 (*projected*)**

*\*2019 The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019., \*\*2019 Whole People of God.,*

*\*\*Gathering, L/E2019 pg. 47, F. Flook.*