

Traditional Order of Worship
 April 7, 2024
 Worship Series: Draw the Circle Wide
 Message: Ripples of Empowerment

Cantor: Amy McCarthy

Prelude: Jesus, Come to Us June and Bob Shuffett

Welcome/Announcements

Pastor Melissa

*Call to Worship

Pastor: We gather in the name of the risen Lord.

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Pastor: We gather as sisters and brothers of the resurrected one.

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Pastor: We gather to share our faith and to worship God.

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Pastor: We gather to proclaim the good news of Easter!

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*Hymn

Easter People, Raise your Your Voices

UMH 304

*Opening Prayer

Pastor Melissa

Pastor: Let us pray

People: God of the resurrection,

**we gather this morning
 as a community of believers.**

**We come with joy to greet one another
 and to tell again and again the amazing news:
 Christ is risen!**

Love is victorious over death!

**You have given us new life
 in the name of Your Son!**

**May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming
 be a testimony to the power of Your love
 to make us a new creation
 as a community of faith.**

We pray in the name of the risen Christ. AMEN.

Children's Moment		Linda Biscardo
Prayers of People		Sarah Chambers
Offering	<i>The Summons</i>	Amy McCarthy

*Doxology UMH #95

Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow!
 Praise Him all creatures here below!
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts!
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gospel Reading	Matthew 28:16-20	Jordan Biscardo
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Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Message	<i>Ripples of Empowerment</i>	Pastor Melissa
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Invitation to Communion		Sarah Chambers
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Prayer of Confession

**We come before You, Holy Lord, with humble hearts,
 acknowledging our shortcomings and failures.
 Just as Your disciples doubted
 even when they saw You after Your resurrection,
 we too sometimes struggle to fully trust in Your power and promises.
 Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of faith and for our moments of doubt.
 Forgive us when we doubt our abilities, our worth, and our purpose,
 when we underestimate Your power at work within us,
 when we fail to live as Your Easter people.
 Help us to remember the Great Commission You have given us,**

to go and make disciples of all nations.
Remind us that the same power that rose Jesus from the grave lives in us.
Empower us to boldly proclaim Your gospel,
to share Your love with others,
and to live out the calling You have placed on our lives.
In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: Jesus promises to be with you always, even to the end of the age.
 His presence and guidance are constant,
 and His grace is sufficient for all your needs.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: Glory to God. AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 13

Pastor Melissa

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . .
 And so, we Your people on earth
 and with all the company of heaven
 praise Your name and join their unending hymn:
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.

Holy are You . . . 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.

