



**April 12, 2026**

## **St. John's United Church of Christ**

*As believers in Jesus Christ, we strive with unconditional love and selflessness – using our God given gifts – to provide a nurturing shelter for those seeking a Christian home. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, education, fellowship, prayer and Christian action throughout our community and the world.*

**Called by God  
Sharing with the World**

**April 12, 2026**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

**Meditation**

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

Corrie ten Boom

**Prelude**

*Lord Jesus Christ, Turn Thou to Us*

by Johann Gottfried Walther

**Welcome and Announcements**

**✝ Opening Hymn #310**      *Thine Is the Glory*

Thine is 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 graveclothes where thy body lay.

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.  
Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!  
Life is nought 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.

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

## Lifting up our Joys

## Passing of the Peace

### ✠ **Call to Worship** (Congregation reads **bold** print)

This is the good news which we proclaim to you.

**Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!**

Walk in the light of his love.

**Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.**

Come, let us worship the One who overcame death.

**Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord.**

### ✠ **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Jeff

### ✠ **Prayer of Confession**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.**

*Silent pause for reflection*      **Amen.**

### ✠ **Assurance of Forgiveness**

**In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has showered mercy upon us all. In Christ's name, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

### **Children's Message**

Pastor Jeff

*(Children are dismissed to Sunday school following message.)*

### **Bible Readings**

*Psalm 16; John 20:19-22*

Curtis Welsh

## Psalm 16

- <sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. <sup>2</sup> I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”
- <sup>3</sup> As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. <sup>4</sup> Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.
- <sup>5</sup> The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- <sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. <sup>7</sup> I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- <sup>8</sup> I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. <sup>10</sup> For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit.
- <sup>11</sup> You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## John 20:19-22

- <sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, 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.

### Choir Anthem

*He Won the Fight*

**✠The Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.** *(From the UCC Book of Worship)*

**Giving our Gifts to God**

**Offertory**

*Easter Hymns*

**✠Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Pastor Jeff

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

**✠Closing Hymn #358**      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**✠Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

**✠Three-fold Amen**

**✠Chimes/Meditation**

**Postlude**

*Loving Spirit*



***The Altar flowers are given to the  
Glory of God, in Honor of our  
grandchildren, Kinley, Grant,  
Chloe, Ella and Wesley.***

***Presented by Jim & Lori Moore.***