

First United Church of Christ
Celebrating Resurrection!

April 9, 2023

Not yet! Wait for the sunrise...

Silence

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' (Mark 16:1-4)

1st Hymn *Morning Has Broken* (Lyrics are on the screen)

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

* **2nd Hymn** *Now the Green Blade Rises* (NCH 238)

* *Easter Prayer of Praise*

All: Our prayer is a song of praise and rejoicing, Wonderful God, on this bright and glory filled Resurrection morning. We have walked the knife edge of death, looking into the gloom. We came with the sunrise to mourn before the tomb. But you, O God, have taken away our sadness and given us cause to sing. Christ is Risen! Death is conquered! Christ is Risen! Amen!

Leader: "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people, and Hallelujah! is the only song we have to sing." (Pope John Paul II)

* **3rd Hymn** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (NCH 233)

Greeting and Announcements

The Surprise Choir

**Invitation to Offering
Oliver**

Mysteries, Yes!

Mary

*Let me keep company always with those who say
"Look!" and laugh in astonishment, and bow their heads...*

Offertory

*...**And so we sing**

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, glad heavens and earth reply: Alleluia!*

* **Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Break open our hearts, Loving God, to let this resurrection life flow through us to the world you have loved so well and redeemed so fully, through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

Kid's Time

1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 64.1-2

Choir Anthem

He Is Risen!

2nd Scripture Reading

Matthew 28.1

Easter Meditation

Possible Impossibilities

* **4th Hymn**

Hymn of Promise

(NCH 433)

"Now it happened that same day..."

* **Benediction**

Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will; working among us that which is pleasing in God's sight,

*through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.
Hebrews 13:20, 21*

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgists: Rose Kleinert and Emily Fuchs

Radio Sponsor: James and Karen Wittwer in memory of Jamie's father, Clifford's birthday on April 12.

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast call the church office at 608-643-8387 to check on available dates. Cost is now at \$90.00/week. Your support of this important ministry is much appreciated.

Address Changes—If your phone number, mailing or email address changes please send the new address to the church office so we can keep our records up to date.

From our Stock the Schools campaign—suggested donations for April: Food items: individual packages of pretzels and Cheez-its and \$25 gift cards to the Piggly Wiggly and Hanson's IGA. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated by everyone. Please drop your donations off in the red tote outside the educational doors during office hours (Monday-Friday 8am–Noon) or inside during Sunday worship. Thanks for your help.

Its time to start thinking about our spring/summer flowers that are planted to brighten the grounds around the church and the park. If you would like to make a monetary donation you can drop off your check/envelope in the offering plate, church office, or mail it to the church office. Make sure you indicate "Flower Fund" in the memo line of your check. We try and target planting in time for Mother's Day (weather permitting).

First UCC Welcome Statement:

"Come to me," Jesus said, "all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest"
(Matthew 11:28)

Reflecting the friendship of God toward all Creation, First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all persons—of any sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, age, family structure, faith background, ability or economic circumstance. We recognize every person as a child of God, welcome all to worship and serve with us and consider all who come to be a necessary part of this fellowship with all its privileges and responsibilities. "No matter who you are, how you identify, who you love, or where you are on life's journey, know that you are loved by God and you are welcome here."

Isaiah 64.1-2

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known...

Matthew 28.1

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.