

Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God by the Worship Committee.



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church
Children's Church -
Prayer Partner: Sandra Carraway
Lay Reader – Kelly Castellow
Audio-Visual Operator – Julian Baker
Greeter: Joanne Rooks
Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman
Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance
Financial Secretary: Edna Bess
Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens
Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson



Oaklette United Methodist Church
"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday

BEGINNING "He is Risen and Resurrection Song" Choir & Don Moody, Solo
GREETING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
JOYS & CONCERNS & WHERE WE SEE GOD WORKING IN THE WORLD

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Exodus 34:33-35 CEB

When Moses finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. Whenever Moses went into the Lord's presence to speak with him, Moses would take the veil off until he came out again. When Moses came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see that the skin of Moses' face was shining brightly. So Moses would put the veil on his face again until the next time he went in to speak with the Lord.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!
Hallelujah! Christ is risen!
Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Easter people raise your voices! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025

OPENING PRAYER

God of mystery and might, your wondrous love always seems to catch us off guard. We come to the tomb looking for death, but find life instead. As we behold the glory of our salvation, take us back to that moment of discovery – when grief and loss gave way to a glimmer of hope. Before we shout our alleluias, remind us of the moment when despair was transported into glimpses of new possibilities. In the holy awe of Easter morning, we take a moment of silent gratitude that Christ calls each of us by name.

(Moment of silence)

Shout it from the mountaintop: Christ is risen!

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed.

*Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J., The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 91).
Abingdon Press, Kindle Edition.*

HYMN “CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY” #302

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won! Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save Alleluia! Where’s thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now Alleluia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia! Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia! Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

In all the world around me I see his loving care,
and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair,
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast;
the day of his appearing will come at last.

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;
none is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

BENEDICTION

Go now in the blessing of God, who meets death with life, hatred with love, and hopeless endings with abundant possibilities, to build a community of life, love, and flourishing as Easter people, followers of the Risen Christ! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

ENDING: “Behold the Lamb & Crown Him With Many Crowns” Choir

And deliver us; **And deliver us,**
From evil; **From evil.**
For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours forever.
For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours forever.
Forever; **Forever,**
And ever; **And ever,**
Our Father; **Our Father**
In heaven; **In heaven,**
All: Holy is Your name.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service.

Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1. Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Living God, you give us the greatest gift of all, the gift of new life. Grateful for this gift, we bring our offerings, the work of our hands. Use our gifts to share your word of hope, your promise of forgiveness and your blessings with all creation. Grateful for your love, we offer ourselves, that we might walk with our neighbors into your garden of love. Amen.

Scifres, Mary; Beu B.J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 88). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN

“He Lives”

#310

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
And just the time I need him, he's always near.

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, still creating, we hear your promises of a new day of joy and peace, and we are skeptical. We expect things to go on the same as they always have, from bad to worse. The past will keep us guilty, the future will make us afraid, and the present will burden us with too little time and too much to do.

Forgive our lack of faith, our quickness to believe that you do not hear us, and our pessimism about tomorrow. Do a new thing in our hearts, and let us be glad and rejoice in your abundant care; through Christ, we pray. Amen.

Written by Dr. Tom Chetham at <https://theconnection08.wordpress.com/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/11/prayer-of-confession-Isauag-65-17-25.html>.

HYMN

“Up From the Grave he Arose”

#322

Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior;
vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior.
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

GOSPEL READING

John 20:1-18, CEB

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him.”

Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. The angels asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

She replied, "They have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they've put him." As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener she replied, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned and said to him in Aramaic "Rabbouni" (which means Teacher.)

Jesus said to her, "Don't hold on to me, for I haven't yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, 'I'm going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, "I've seen the Lord." Then she told them what he said to her.

LESSON "He Wants Us to Know"

Rev. Ned Alderman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Glorious God we give you thanks and praise, for on this day creation sings, Christ is risen from the dead! He has burst forth from the tomb to break the tangles of despair and death.

Love is come again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the eternal chorus of rejoicing who forever sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, Giver of life, heaven and earth declare your splendor. Praise, glory, and love are yours.

All-embracing God, we give you thanks for Jesus, the risen Lord of life, who rose victorious from the grave and made the whole creation new. He broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed, then he poured out his life in death that we might live in love.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love has come again.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, Take, eat: This is my body, which is for you.

After supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, Drink from this all of you: This is my blood poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for remembrance of me.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love has come again.

Recalling his life, death, and resurrection, we offer you these gifts of bread and the cup, and our lives in thanks and praise. Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our savior Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit upon the whole earth, that we may proclaim the good news to all the world and rise together as his children of your creation.

Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God, where death and pain are no more and you dwell with us forever. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you eternally in songs of unbounded praise.

Amen.

Long, Kimberly Bracken. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1. Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

THE LORD'S PRAYER [sung]

Our Father; **Our Father**

In Heaven; **In Heaven**

Holy is Your Name; **Holy is Your name**

Your kingdom come; **Your kingdom come**

Your will be done; **Your will be done**

On earth; **On earth**

As in heaven; **As in Heaven.**

Give us today; **Give us today,**

Our daily bread; **Our daily bread.**

And forgive those; **And forgive those,**

Who sin against us; **Who sin against us.**

Save us from the time; **Save us from the time,**

Of Trials; **Of trials.**