

Devotion for the Week of Easter

Easter Morning

I cannot stay away on Easter Morning.
Like Peter,
I would run if I could.
Take the church steps two at a time,
all to know—
Did it happen?
Did it really happen?
Is evil no match for love?
Were the stories true?
And in response, the choir would sing, “Alleluia.”
The children would flower the cross.
The preacher would tell me the stone was rolled away.
The people would pass the peace,
and make room in the pews.
And with faith over doubt,
I would hope.
For I imagine that all of that ordinary holiness
would be enough for Peter,
and it would be enough for me.

By Sarah Speed

The celebrations around Easter often speak to largesse; large chocolate bunnies, lilies bursting with blooms, tables set with the wedding china. But what about this Easter offers ordinary holiness? Who stands with you when the tomb is empty? Who sings with you when your heart is full? Who shows up when the world doesn't make sense? Thank someone who brings ordinary holiness to your life.



Heyward St UMC

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We might expect that, after denying Christ, Peter would cower in shame—or perhaps even run away in an attempt to leave his past behind him. Instead, when he hears the news from the women, he doesn't dismiss them like the other disciples. He gets up and runs to the tomb. When he peers into the empty tomb and sees the linen cloth, he is filled with awe. Even after the biggest failures, even after the worst case scenario has happened, can we run toward hope? Like Peter, will we keep going? Will we keep looking for God in our midst?

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Easter Day

Gathered to Worship

March 31, 2024

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Song God is On the Move Praise Team

Resurrection Response Hymn by Wetzel
**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,
that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many
faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and
the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and
our God. Amen**

Scripture Luke 24:1-12 Pew Bible p 90

Sermon And I Hope Rev. Blom

Song *Christ is Risen* Praise Team

Prayers of the People

Words of Institution / Communion

All are welcome at the table. Please come down the center aisle.
Receive a piece of bread and dip in the cup. Return via the side
aisle. As you come, bring a prayer request or offering for the
plate.

Communion Hymn *Come Thou Fount* UMH 400

Closing Song *The Joy of the Lord* Praise Team

Benediction



Welcome to Worship at Heyward St UMC

If this is your first visit, we are happy to welcome you. If this is the place you call your faith community, we welcome you. In this sacred space, our spirits and our witnesses honor the Risen Lord as we proclaim, "Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!"

Thank you for Hosting the Egg Hunt for Our Preschoolers

On Monday, our preschoolers brought their families to the Easter Egg Hunt and Grand Reopening of the Playground. Many eggs were hidden; only to be joyfully added to baskets. Thank you to all who donated eggs and to Karen, Marlene, Dani, Alexandra, and Audrey for volunteering at the event.



Let's Assemble a Basket for a Foster Family

Epworth Children's Home is celebrating Foster Care Appreciation month by asking for donations of themed baskets. Our church has chosen the theme "Family Outing Basket" and will be collecting items for a bowling themed basket! We will have items available to sign up for through Sign Up Genius. Alexandra Agee, our Epworth rep, is coordinating this project.

Volunteers Needed to Serve Lunch Tomorrow

The Welcome Table is serving lunch at Washington St UMC tomorrow from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. To volunteer, see Pastor Tammy.