



*Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation
through Christian spiritual transformation,
making our work and the church relevant and visible.*

Easter 2022

Greeting Siblings in Christ,

The “Good News” on Easter – that Christ is risen from the dead – isn’t really “news.” That is, we know the story. We have heard it for years.

At times it is hard to hear something “new” in this particular “Good News.” Though the story is old, our lives – renewed by the Gospel – are new each day. Each day begins as we remember we are children of God, that Christ is risen, that death has been conquered; that our brokenness is forgiven, and that we are free to live a re-newed life – a life bold and unafraid. Because the desires and troubles of the world can be so powerful, that understanding has to be re-newed every day.

So the Easter acclamation – **“Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!”** – brings the Good News each new day. The Christian faith is enduring and always present. Though Jesus was born long ago, he is born again into our lives as we grow in faith. Though the resurrection of Jesus was a historic event that happened at a particular time, Christ rises again as we call upon him, offer prayer, worship and praise, experiencing his presence in the activity of the Holy Spirit.

During Lent we remember that Jesus made intentional choices to engage and heal people wholly that inevitably butted against a system that limited the opportunities for people to experience re-newed lives, to feel empowered, and included. We listen to voices of those who were there, how they might have experienced the effect of their part in Jesus’ life and death. On Good Friday, at 7 pm, we will hear the Passion story of our Lord in the Tenebrae service. But we know death was not the end – is never the end. When we choose to live wholly, good enough lives, helping others - helping create systems that allow others to life wholly, good enough lives, we choose to live re-newed lives in Jesus.

This year, our Easter offering is for **“Emergency Support for Lake Point Resident Neighbors Who Were Formally Unhoused”**.

Please bring your check, payable to LMUMC, memo section **“Lake Point Emergency Support”**, to worship on **EASTER SUNDAY. 10:15 am**. You may also give on-line at our church’s website at www.lakemerrittumc.org

Come! Celebrate! Receive the blessing; as we declare that because Christ is risen, we are fully alive, free and unafraid. We are God’s people; we share God’s love; we take our own part in redeeming the ills of the world as we are redeemed through Christ. Then go. Live boldly as God’s people!

Shalom, Salaam,

Rev. Pamela L. Kurtz, Pastor

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