**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

 *\* Indicates, please stand if able.*

 Second Sunday after Easter April 16, 2023 9 am

 Liturgist: Daniel Brauner

WELCOME, PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\***CALL TO WORSHIP (1 Peter 1, John 20)

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**P: Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice.**

L: Do not worry or fear, for Christ is alive!

**P: In this place, we find hope and joy.**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**P: Let us worship the one who brings new life.**

\*OPENING PRAYER (Acts 2, 1 Peter 1)

**Life-giving God, we gather today to celebrate the resurrection of your Son. We are grateful for the new life he brings. We are grateful for the hope and joy he shares. We are grateful for leading the way, as he goes before us. Gracious God, today and every day, we offer you our thanks and praise. Strengthen our faith, that it may sustain us during difficult days and enable us to share your love with others. Open our hearts to new life and new possibilities. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**\***OPENING HYMN***O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing***UMH 317

CHILDREN’S TIME Paul Hoffman

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SPECIAL GUEST for SLEEP in HEAVENLY PEACE BED Tom Twesme

 Co-President of SHP

PRAYER of CONFESSION (John 20)

**God of mercy and grace, you understand us completely. Yet there are times when we do not understand this life of faith. We do not understand how Jesus rose from the dead. We do not understand how the resurrected Christ comes to us today. Moments of doubt and disbelief sap our strength. Forgive and restore us. Help us trust you and your love for us. And help us trust the ways of Christ. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (John 20:23)

Jesus said to the disciples, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” Beloved children of God, you are forgiven. May this forgiveness bring peace to your souls, your minds, and your body. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER Pastor Jon McHann

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(In Unison)*

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING (1 Peter 1)

 Through the resurrection of Christ, we have been given new birth and a living hope.

 In thanksgiving and praise, let us bring our gifts to God.

**\***DOXOLOGY ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*** #95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (1 Peter 1) Pastor Jon McHann

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:14a;22-32

**14**Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: …

**22**“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

**23**This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. **24**But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. **25**David said about him: “‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. **26**Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, **27**because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. **28**You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’ **29**“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. **30**But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **31**Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **32**God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE  ***Living for Jesus*** TFWS 2149

TESTIMONY A group of the Bible Study

MESSAGE ***Listen Up!*** Pastor Jon McHann

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT***Alleluia, Alleluia*** UMH 162

**\***BENEDICTION Pastor Jon McHann

POSTLUDE Matthew Schluntz

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please pray for people in need in our church, community, nation, and the world.

**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED BUILD:** will take place the next Saturday, 22, at 8 am at

 Jackson Electric Cooperative.

**WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS:** is designed for Christian Fellowship**.** A meal this week, April 19th,

 will be served by Paul Hoffman.

**PRAYER WALK:** will take place on every Sunday at 1pm in parking lot.

 National Day of Prayer, Sunday, May 7.

**THE YOUTH LED WORSHIP:** on May 7th at 9 am.

**THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**: Annual Spring Retreat will be held on Saturday, May 6 at Pine

 Lake Camp. Register by April 21. Cost is $20 ($25 after April 21) and includes lunch

**THANKS:** Pastor Jon McHann and Alma Center UMC for a joint service today.

**SCRIP CARDS:** When you are thinking of ideas for gift giving or personal use, consider Scrip cards**.**

Stop at the gathering area on Sundays or call Marcia at 715-284-3346

**FELLOWSHIP:** will be served by Judy Sheppard

**USHER/GREETERS**: Don & Charlene Galston

**THIS WEEK AT THE CHURCH:**

 Tue: Worship Comm. 5:30 pm

 Wed: Wednesday Connections 4:45-6 pm Pre-Con 5-6 pm

 Youth 6-7 pm Confirmation Class 7-8 pm

 Thu: Children/Youth/Family 5:30 pm

**Bible Verse of the Week:** James 4:10

*“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”*

**Bible Trivia:**

`He that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God` is called what?

A. Rich B. A fool C. Wise D. Shrewd

 *See: Luke 12:21*

**Black River Falls**

**United Methodist Church**

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**UMC Mission Statement:**

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

 PASTOR Rev. Inwha Shon

 PIANIST Matthew Schluntz

 MUSIC DIRECTOR Amanda Lang

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