

Sunday, April 1, 2018 – Easter Sunday

UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 1, 2018

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 AM

Nations, like stars, are entitled to eclipse. All is well, provided the light returns and the eclipse does not become endless night. Dawn and resurrection are synonymous. The reappearance of the light is the same as the survival of the soul.

Victor Hugo



W e l c o m e

in Christ's name to all who are visiting.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. Please let us know you were here by filling out one of the guest cards provided by the ushers. We are blessed by having you here. May you also be blessed because you worshipped God with us.

UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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10:00 AM

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Music for Quiet Reflection

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude:

CALLING EACH OTHER TO WORSHIP:

L: Sisters and brothers, you have heard the good news. Brothers and sisters, you hold firmly to this faith.

All: Christ appeared to the disciples.

L: Sisters and brothers, it has already been proclaimed. Brothers and sisters, you have already received this promise.

All: Christ appears to us.

L: Sisters and brothers, this is the hardest claim in our faith. Brothers and sisters, the good news is not ancient history.

All: Christ will appear again.

L: Sisters and brothers, this is the mystery that we share. Brothers and sisters, this is the good news that we proclaim.

All: Christ appears to us now.

Opening Hymn: "Christ the Lord Has Risen Today" #417 green hymnal

Calling God Into Our Hearts, Minds, and Spirits (Unison as in One Voice)

God appeared long ago to the faithful. God appears now to doubters. God will appear to seekers. God appeared and is appearing because God shows no partiality because God so loves this world and God so loves you and God loves us all. Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE LISTEN

Anthem Handbell Choir

A Time for the Child In Us All (Children leave for Sunday School through the Fellowship Room afterwards)

***Fellowship Hymn:** "He Lives" #164 green hymnal

We Pass Peace of Our Still Speaking and Present God

Scripture Reading: Corinthians 15:1-11 Mark 16:1-8

L: God is still speaking to us through the Living Word.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "And Then...Jokers Wild"

Anthem Solo "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth" Maryjane Starr

From the "Messiah by Handel"

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

Responding in Prayer

Sharing Celebrations & Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using **debts** and **debtors**)

Response

Responding through Giving

Invitation to Giving and Receiving of Gifts

Offertory: Choir

Hymn of Praise: "The Doxology"

***Dedication of Our Gifts, Talents and Treasures (In Unison)**

God of seekers and doubters, Bless these gifts so that the world may know that you are always appearing. Bless our hands so that your love might appear in the work we share. Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE FEAST

Communion Hymn: "Hymn of Promise" #638 Chalice hymnal

Celebration of Holy Communion

GOD'S PEOPLE LEAVE TO SERVE

***Closing Hymn** "He Arose" #416 green hymnal

***Benediction**

***Response**

Organ Postlude

***Congregation:** Please rise in body or in spirit.