

April Radio Sponsors: Chris and Pam Burtnett

Birthdays: 17- Cooper Heath; 4-22 Sandy Harmes-Buchanan

Sunday, April 17: Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

Sunday, April 24: 10:00 am. Worship - led by David Burrow
Sunday School
Coffee

You may take your Easter Lily home after worship today. Help is needed to deliver Easter Lilies to our shut-ins.

The April Board Meeting has been rescheduled for May 18 for an April/May Board Meeting.

Pastor Chris will be on vacation April 18 - April 25. Karen Dearchs will be on call. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Mick Schlievert at 515-341-1727 and he will contact Karen.

The *Our Daily Bread* special Easter devotional "Peace to You-10 Easter Reflections" is available on the cart in the entry way to the Education/Office/Fellowship Hall building.



EASTER LILIES

David Burrow

David Burrow

Chris and Pam Burtnett

Ginny Buchanan

Scott and Sandy Buchanan

Marilyn Deal

Don and Becky Marine

Don and Becky Marine

Katherine Myer

Larry and Sandy Person

Mick and Kris Schlievert

Mick and Kris Schlievert

John and Helen Scuffham

Todd and Shelly TerHark

Chuck West family

in memory of George and Betty Burrow

in memory of Margaret Burrow Sullivan

in memory of loved ones

in memory of Russ

in memory of Gregg and Julie Buchanan

in memory of her parents, Bob and Elaine Deal

in memory of our parents

in memory of our granddaughter Olivia Bachman

In memory of Don Myers

In memory of Lee & Velma Dixon and Art Person

in memory of Charles and Helen Schlievert

in memory of Betty Wilcox

in memory of our parents Joe and Edna Skow and

John and Mildred Scuffham

in memory of Larry TerHark

in memory of Mary Ellen and Eric Lee West

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Easter Sunday
April 17, 2022

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELL
GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: This is the day

Many: when God shines the way out of pandemic's worry, and grace offers bouquets of good news.

One: This is the day the Lord

Many: sings songs of wonder to awaken us, and life teaches us new dance steps.

One: This is the day the Lord has made!

Many: The day when hope pushes aside the stone of our months of fear, when love takes our hand so we can walk together into life.

***OPENING SONG:** "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" #288

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

God of new life and possibilities, we gather, to sing our songs of gladness and to share your steadfast love. Some of us come from the shadows of our lives, as we anticipate the light. Some of us come eager to learn, but are unsure of what it all means. Some of us come us come in grief, grateful to discover hope. Wherever we have come from, may we all find you, the risen Christ, the one who conquered death and proclaims new life for all. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

In our foolishness, we think this old story has nothing to do with us, God of Imagination, and so we miss the incredible news that love has triumphed over hate, goodness has defeated evil, that life has broken the power of death and the grave. Yet, this is a day of joy, of wonder, of grace which never ends, God of every life, God of very life. So, may we push aside the stone of indifference we have rolled across our hearts, so we may be reminded that this old story is new every moment, that those

ancient promises still hold true, that we are the ones by called by the Gardener of grace, Jesus our Brother, who calls us by name and anoints us with resurrection love. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: On that first day, and the next, and every day until now and beyond, God turns, calls us by name, planting mercy and life into our hearts.

Many: Alleluia! This is the good news! Christ is our peace, the peace we need, the peace which will heal the world. Alleluia! Christ is Risen. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-12

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in an astounding God, who surprises us on Easter morning, who reveals through an empty tomb how overflowingly full of God the creation is. We believe in God, who is light in the darkness, who never gives up on love, who is always working for our good, who weeps when we weep and laughs when we laugh, who calls us to be more than we are as God relentlessly transforms our tears into alleluias.

We believe in the Christ, present at and in the creation, heard in the words of prophets, enfleshed in the birth of a long-sought Messiah, alive in the lessons taught to disciples, not stuck in a tomb of despair, nailed to cross, or buried in the past, but living forever, and walking with us on our journeys today, seen in our stories, present in everything we can see, touch, and imagine.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the invisible presence of God, the joy, hope, and peace of possibilities opening all around us all the time. We believe the Spirit calls us to community, to compassion, to welcome, and to acts of mercy and justice, so that the whole world will quiver with wonder and hope.

We are people of faith in the risen Christ, and we see our Christ in everyone and in everything. We strive to live in such a way that the world will see Christ rising again, in us and through us, with the message of Easter. God cannot be contained; Not by books, not by traditions, not by institutions, and not by tombs. God lives. Christ is risen. Alleluia. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

John 20:1-18

read from *The Common English Bible*

MESSAGE:

"Risen"

Pastor Burtnett

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE: Invitation, Communion Prayer, Sanctus, Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer, Sharing the Bread and Cup

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy, gracious, God, here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love; We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence; We accept you into our bodies, into our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer. And we give you thanks. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of abundance, we offer our gifts to you in thanksgiving and joy for the presence of the living Christ. May these gifts bring new life to these both near and far. May we offer ourselves in service to you and to one another. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG:** "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" #289

***GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE of CHRIST**

POSTLUDE

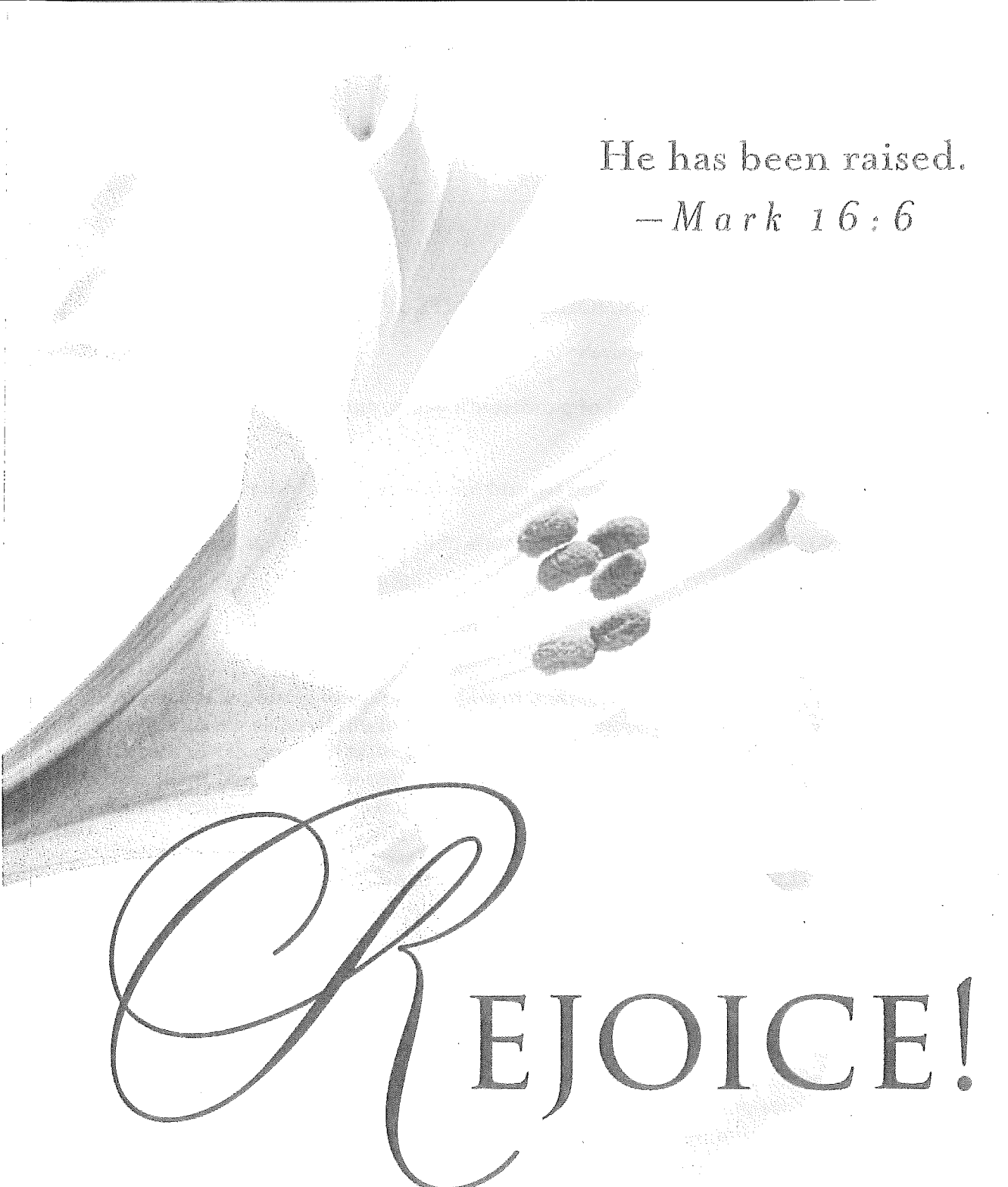
The Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication are by Karin Ellis from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is from First Olympia United Methodist Church, Olympia Washington. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving is from *Spacious Faith, Worship Pieces, and General Ponderings*, heavily adapted from a prayer by Katherine Hawker.

=====

Organist: Liz Reynolds
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: Pastor Burtnett

=====

April Radio Sponsors: Chris and Pam Burtnett



He has been raised.

— Mark 16:6

REJOICE!