



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 12, 2026 | 2nd Sunday of Easter
10:00 AM Theme: Stories That Matter
Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor
Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liz Steen

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, find questions bubbling up: How do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

Within our questioning, Christ appears.

We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

Within our certainty, Christ appears.

Whether we come to worship full of certainty or doubt, we are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's saving work in the world, a story still unfolding around us.

We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.

* CONGREGATION STANDS AS COMFORTABLE CONGREGATION RESPONSE IN ***BOLD Italic***

Key to abbreviations: OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS: The Faith We Sing ++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

*OPENING HYMN

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

UMH 304

PRAYER OF CENTERING

God of the risen Christ, we praise you for the great love you've shown in redeeming us by sending your Son, Jesus. Help us today to embrace the new life that the resurrected Christ is giving us: a life beyond our doubts, a life of faith over fear, courage over confusion, and belief over disbelief. We trust your guidance and follow in your Way. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of the resurrected Christ in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CREATION CARE MOMENT

Rebecca Masters

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Nancy McCallum

DRAMATIC READING AND INTERPRETATION

John 20:19-31

NT p.115

Richard Bloomer, Jan Lucciola, Laurie Oszczepinski, Jackie Pentecharsky, Liz Steen

ANTHEM

He is Risen!

Nancy Price and Don Besig

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty God, may all who confess your name be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all nations, in the ways of justice and peace, that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others, and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Jesus loves us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled. We pray that we may share one day with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together, saying...

LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94++

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by your grace, you call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept now these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. Let our giving testify to your Resurrection power and shape us into a community where wounds are not hidden but held with love. In Christ, who breathes peace upon us, we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "Amazing Grace" (vs 1-4) UMH 378++

***BENEDICTION**

For all that has been...*Thanks!*

For all that will be...*Yes!*

***SENDING FORTH**

Peace be with us as we depart to serve. Christ sends us out as witnesses to the world.

We have experienced God's signs and wonders. We have known the peace Christ brings.

Christ breathes a blessing on us all; the Holy Spirit fills us with hope and joy.

We are equipped to share new life in Christ. We rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy.

Wherever we go, God is beside us. God is a present help in all we do.

We are witnesses to resurrection power; in thanks and praise, we proclaim salvation. Amen and amen!

***POSTLUDE**

IMPORTANT CHURCH INFORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHILD CARE (IN COMMUNITY RM/NURSERY AFTER CHILDREN'S MESSAGE)

CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 8:30AM SANCTUARY

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE: SUNDAYS 11:30AM SANCTUARY

CRAFTY LADIES: THURSDAYS 9:30 AM Craft/Community Room

MEETING SCHEDULE and MEETING ZOOM LINK: bit.ly/MUMCZoom

- **Monday, April 13th—Thursday April 16—Pastor Jenn on vacation and Church Office will be closed. Pastor Sungduk Kim from Dingmans Ferry UMC will be providing Pastoral coverage and can be reached at #570-828-2288**
- **Thursday, April 16th 7:30PM Faith & Fiction Book Group (Conference Room)**
(This month's book *Children of the New Forest* by Frederick Marryat)
- **Sunday, April 19th 12PM—New Member Class (Conference Room)**

***BIBLE STUDY (Bible Basics) will be offered on Monday nights at 6:30pm for 4 weeks (4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11) and for 5 weeks in June (6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29)**

- **Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 PM—One Board Meeting (Conference Room)**
- **Tuesday, April 28, 4PM—Nominations/Leadership Development Committee Mtg. (Conference Room)**

PRAYER LIST: Caite Panzer, Dr. Antonella, Sue & Gregg Rhodes, Cassie, Gwen Gilmore, Pam Sackett, Bradley Seltzer, Beth Klopfleisch, Jackie & Dani Pentecharsky, Pat Corcoran, Connie & Fred Lamando, Terry Coupell, Gary Psarudakis, Pat Mystkowski, Barbara Urban, Hernandez Family, Dianne Siconolfi, Patrick Singer, Mark Geleyn, Carolyn Grossmann, Linda Ryder, Joanne Green, Jacob Hernandez, Rebecca Suarez, Barbara Brown, Nazareth, Joe Schneider, Jim Schneider, Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Geoff Sackett, Armando Avila, Agnes Halsey, David Kent, James Bennet, Joan Pauley, Lori Sheppard, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Brian Sheppard, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Henry Salidino, Jim Lordi

GREETER | Joan Arlequeeuw **LITURGIST** | Liz Steen
FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR | Penny & Michael Seltzer



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