

**Order of Worship  
Sunday, April 18, 2021**

**9:30 a.m. Online**

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**Prelude and Lighting of Candles**      *Draw Us to You* (setting by M. Burkhardt)  
Gaye Herndon, organist

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

**When the tomb looms large before our eyes, remind us, Lord, who we are:  
We are children of the resurrection; the place of death will not hold us.  
We are the breakers of loaves and fishes; the taste of death will not defile us.  
God is our refuge and our strength.  
We gather in the power and sure promise of resurrection.**

**Opening Hymn**                              *Christ is Alive* (UMH 318)

**Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in God who is the pillar of fire and the pillar of cloud.  
We trust in our Holy Parent who judges and shows mercy.  
We hope in our Creator who is faithful to all that is seen and unseen.  
We believe in Jesus who rode in triumph into Jerusalem.  
We trust in the Messiah who was crucified, died, and was buried.  
We hope in the living Christ who walked out of the tomb.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of faith and formation.  
We trust in the Breath of Life who stirs, sustains, and sanctifies.  
We hope in our Advocate who brings to us, and through, us the gift of God's peace.**

**Gloria Patri**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Children's Chat**                              *Celebration of the Ministry of Jill Merryday*

**Scripture**                                      Mark 16:1-8

**Sermon**                                        *Easter People: Responses to the Resurrection*

**Special Music**                              *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* (Spiritual/arr. D. and A. Pote)  
Se'lah

**Closing Hymn**                              *Give to the Winds Thy Fears* (UMH 129)

**Closing Prayer**

**May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life,  
strengthen us in courageous hope, enrich us with expansive love,  
and fill us with joy in the living out of our faith as the heart, hands and feet of Jesus.  
So that all people come to know the love of God. Amen.**

**Postlude**                                        *I Know that My Redeemer Lives* (setting by M. Burkhardt)