



WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

Easter Sunrise Service
April 20, 2025

The Gathering

Acknowledging the Territory

Gathering Hymn: *My Lord, What a Morning* *VU 708*

Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candle

We light the Christ candle to symbolize the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive within us, this day and every day.

We light the Affirm candle to proclaim to the members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities and their allies that they are truly welcomed and accepted in this place.

Music Offering: *Welcome, Jesus, You are Welcome* *MV 137*

Opening Prayer:

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness. Only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that." (*Martin Luther King, Jr.*)

Gracious God, One who illuminates us and gives us new life, we thank you that you call us with the rising of the sun to see a new beginning, a new day and the joy that comes with new possibility. As we seek out your abundant goodness, help us to know that you are always in view. Help us to realize that we see you. May we pause, this day, to look for your presence. May we not forget that you are here among us, in each other, in nature and in the call to love one another. Bless this time as we awake to give you thanks, for Jesus has risen. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Reflections of Easter morning: *(looking at the tomb)*

Prayers:

Hymn:

Morning Has Broken

VU 409