



**West Grove United Methodist Church**

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead  
Pastor

300 North Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390



*Easter*  
*SUNRISE SERVICE*

# EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

7:00 a.m.  
April 16, 2017

## Easter Greetings

**\*Opening Hymn** “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” UMH 3020 v. 1-4

**\*Call to Worship** (Responsive) Karen Hruz

One: Rejoice heavenly powers, sing choirs of angels!

**Many: CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN!**

One: He is risen, indeed. Sound the trumpet of salvation.

**Many: Let all the earth rejoice!**

One: Christ has conquered death and darkness is forever vanished.

**Many: Our risen Savior shines in glory!**

**Prayer** (Unison) Karen Hruz

Mighty God of power and wonder, we join the chorus of the rocks who began singing your praise. Jesus did as he promised. He lived our lives, died our death, and rose triumphant over the grave. Christ, whose word inspired creation, can never be silenced by the tomb. Grant that we deniers and betrayers turned disciples may join our voices in the resurrection song. May our lives be transformed by the mighty power of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

**Hymn** “Up From the Grave He Arose” UMH 322, vs. 1-3

**\*Gospel** *Matthew 28: 1-10, 16-20* Karen Hruz

**Sermon** Answered Prayer Pastor Monica

## Offering

### Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: The Lord is risen!

**Many: Christ is Risen, indeed!**

One: Lift up your hearts, O people of God.

**Many: We lift them to the Risen Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: We offer our thanks and praise to the One who gives us new life.**

One: How good it is on this resurrection day to lift our glad songs of praise to you, Redeemer of the lost. We sing songs of answered prayers and sightings of your presence. You faithfully heard us when we cried and answered our hearts with your wisdom, but we proclaimed you a deserting God and have felt abandoned.

Prophets came in your name, pointing to your presence in our lives, and we could not see, hear, or feel you. Never leaving us to our own devices, you sent the Messiah, the Christ, the One who could live our lives, so we could know your love. Therefore, on this day and every day, with those in heaven and those on earth, we lift our glad cries to you:

**Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, All creation is blessed with new life on this day. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes bringing your resurrection power. Hosanna in the highest!**

One: Holy are you, God of Easter resurrection and redemption, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, sent by you to bring us salvation. Your right hand, he releases us from sin's grip; walks through the darkness of death, leads us into the kingdom's light; confounds the practitioners of evil, does good for others; humbles himself to experience our pain and suffering and is raised to rule over all.

Earlier this week, we walked this lonesome valley with Jesus. He gathered for the Feast of Passover with his friends and disciples, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

As we believe what we may not understand, we trust that mystery we call faith:

**Many: Christ has died, but death does not have the final word; Christ is risen, and Easter begins for us when Christ calls us by name. Christ will come again and lead us into God's glory.**

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon the Bread and the Cup, Resurrecting God, and upon us who seek to be your children. When we are done eating

and drinking with the Risen Lord, send us forth to feed the hungry and satiate the thirsty. Served at the Table by the One who freed us from death, we would go out to be servants of the poor and oppressed in our world.

Through Christ, glory and honor, praise and thanksgiving are yours, God of new life, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy people, on this first day of the week and in all the days to come. **Amen.**

One: As disciples proclaiming the God news, we pray together the Lord's Prayer.

**Prayer After Receiving** (Unison)

Eternal God of light and life, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world, broken and full of darkness, to share your light! In the name of Jesus the Risen Christ, we pray, Amen.

**\*Hymn**

"He Lives"

UMH 310

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Monica