



**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 1, 2018**

**Easter Greetings**

Pastor Monica

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

UMH 302 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.**

**Throughout this Lent, we have paused to see where God is moving.**

**Let us not keep silent, but raise our voices in praise.**

**Let us sing in celebration! Jesus is alive! Alleluia! Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Up From the Grave He Arose”

UMH 322, vs. 1-3

**\*Gospel**

*Mark 16:1-7*

Karen Hruz

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”

**\*Response to the Gospel**

Karen Hruz

One: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Many: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Sermon**

“Pause for Resurrection”

Karen Hruz

**Offering**

Pastor Monica

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Pastor Monica

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: We pause on resurrection day to sing 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, even when you were right next to us.

Prophets came in your name, pointed 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, Jesus 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 all; 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, disciples, and any who would join him, 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 Jesus 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.

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

**Many: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Prayer After Receiving (Unison)**

Karen Hruz

**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