

Easter Sunday

9:30AM, April 5th, 2026

Liturgist: Mark Shenise

Asterisk (*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

Easter people, Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

*HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

UMH # 302

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

UMH # 881

OPENING PRAYER Unison

In thy hand, we see the whole cosmos, Heaven and earth reflect the mystery of thy handiwork. In thy hand, we see a little child, Men and women are recaptured by the event of Bethlehem. In thy hand, we see the scar of the cross. Sin and death are vanquished by thy suffering on Golgotha. In thy hand, behold a new light, Day and night are transformed in the glory of Easter morning.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

O God, still creating, we hear your promises of a new day of joy and peace, and we are skeptical. We expect things to go on the same as they always have, from bad to worse. The past will keep us guilty, the future will make us afraid, and the present will burden us with too little time and too much to do. Forgive our lack of faith, our quickness to believe that you do not hear us, and our pessimism about tomorrow. Do a new thing in our hearts, and let us be glad and rejoice in your abundant care; through Christ, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: The One who bore the cross now lives in glory. The One who washed the feet of His disciples continues to cleanse and renew us in His grace. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are made new. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:1-2, 11-18 (NRSV)

- 1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.
- 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."
- 11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;
- 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.
- 13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."
- 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.
- 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
- 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher).
- 17 Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "
- 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

MESSAGE "Beyond the Empty Tomb" Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN "Up From the Grave He Arose" UMH # 322

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION UMH # 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH # 895

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

God of New Beginnings, you roll away more than stones. You roll away despair and doubt, fear and failure. On this Resurrection morning, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the new life we have found in Christ. Let these offerings be signs of our commitment to live differently -- eyes open, hearts awakened, hands ready to serve. May what we give today help announce to the world that hope is alive, love has triumphed, and joy cannot be contained. Use us and what we offer to keep telling the story: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN "He Lives" UMH # 310

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Welcome to
Mendham United Methodist Church

www.mendhamumc.org

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5th, 2026



Mary Magdalene in the garden with Jesus, LeCompte, Rowan and Irene LeCompte, Washington National Cathedral, Mosaic, Washington, DC, United States

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

Cell Phone: 469-544-6373

Church Office: 973-543-6376

* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.