

# *The Inter-Faith Chapel*

*“A House of Prayer for All People”*

3680 South Leisure World Blvd.  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20906



*March 31, 2024*  
*Easter Sunday*  
*with Holy Communion*

*As you enter to worship, please silence your cell phones.*

## SILENT MEDITATION

*In the joy of Easter, we sing Alleluia! Christ is risen! God gives us resurrection hope and transforms us daily through the creative Spirit. Because the tomb is empty, our lives can be full. Let us enter into every place and every day as people brimming with the love of God. Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!*

## PRELUDE

*Air Trompette & Rondeau and Fanfares*  
Todd Butler, trumpet and Holly Oberle, organ

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Dr. Woodie Rea  
Senior Minister

## LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

## INTROIT

*Because You Came*

Farah Kidwai

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Leader: Easter begins in darkness. Our love, our hope is dead.  
Sealed by a boulder, bottled up in a tomb.*

**ALL: Who will roll the stone away?**

*Leader: Easter takes us by surprise, early in the morning.  
Where once there was despair and distress,  
Now the bright light of hope breaks forth.*

**ALL: Where have you laid him?**

*Leader: Suddenly the realization dawns.  
We recognize the One who was dead as he comes to life in us.*

**ALL: Christ is risen!**

*Leader: The tomb is empty! Love and hope live!*

**ALL: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## INVOCATION

## ✠ HYMN

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

✠ **You may stand in body or in spirit.**

*Music used by permission, CCLI #1683224*

# Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN  
"Lyra Davidica"

Charles Wesley

Christ the Lord is risen to - day,  
Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Love's re - deem - ing work is done,  
Sing we to our God a - bove,

All cre - a - tion, join to say,  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,  
Praise e - ter - nal as His love;

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
Dy - ing once, He all doth save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Death in vain for - bids Him rise,  
Praise Him, all ye heaven - ly host,

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:  
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.  
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Dr. Ramonia Lee  
Minister of Congregational Life

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**UNISON**

**Living God, we confess that when we stand before the empty tomb, we don't always feel the joy of resurrection. We feel doubt and distrust. We feel broken and afraid. We feel empty. Forgive us when we doubt the power of love and the promise of the Good News. Forgive the fear and hesitation that keeps us from experiencing the abundant life that you offer. Fill our emptiness with your surprising joy. Help us to experience Easter, and the fullness of new life, every day. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND RECONCILIATION**

### **✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in God,  
Who works in the hidden stillness of every dawn and,  
Who beckons us to visit the tomb of our fears so we might discover hope.  
We believe that the power of God rolled the stone away,  
And that new life was brought forth from an empty tomb.**

**We believe in Jesus, the Risen Christ,  
Who meets us in the darkness,  
Who calls us by name and calms our fears,  
Who bids us to walk ever in the light.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Who energizes us to be Easter people,  
Challenging despair with glowing hope,  
Acting peacefully in the midst of growing chaos,  
Living joyfully and fully, each and every day.**

**This we believe,  
That Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!**

### **✠ GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 16: 1-8

**ANTHEM**

*Hallelujah Chorus from The Messiah*  
Chancel Choir and Guests

Handel

**SERMON**

“The Empty Tomb”

Dr. Woodie Rea

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*Christ is Risen, Alleluia!*

Farah Kidwai

**✠ DOXOLOGY**

(Tune: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*The Day of Resurrection!*

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

*Dr. Rea: On this day, we celebrate the risen Christ.*

**Dr. Lee: On this day, we celebrate resurrection in our lives.**

*Dr. Rea: At this table, we receive the hope provided by an empty tomb.*

**Dr. Lee: At this table, we receive the grace offered by a risen Savior.**

*Dr. Rea: In this moment, we experience the real presence of Christ.*

**Dr. Lee: In all moments, we proclaim Christ is risen!**

**ALL: Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

**COMMUNION PRAYER**

**UNISON**

**Gracious God, we raise our voices shouting Hallelujah! We sing praises for the wonder of an empty tomb, and we give thanks for the resurrection of life over the bonds of darkness and death. God of life, send your Spirit upon us as we gather to share this meal. As we eat and drink, may we feel the power of love, know the possibility of hope, and experience the joy of Easter, deep in our souls. Now, using the words that Jesus taught us, hear us as we continue our prayer...**

# The Day of Resurrection!

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful; let earth its song be - gin;

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

The roots of this English text come from a mid-8th century Greek hymn that continues to be used in Orthodox churches at the midnight Eucharist marking the beginning of Easter. The tune is named for the county in northwestern England where the composer was then an organist.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

SUNG BY ALL

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Holy Communion is provided two different ways at The Inter-Faith Chapel. You are invited to participate in the form most familiar and comfortable to you.*

*Communion is served in the PEWS on the LEFT SIDE of the sanctuary facing the cross. Wafers and individual grape juice cups will be passed in trays among the congregation.*

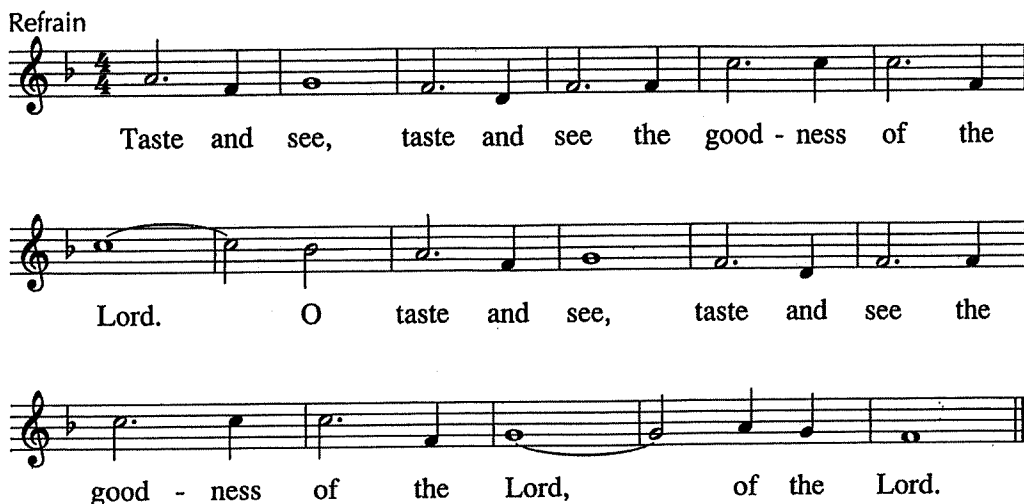
*Communion is served by INTINCTION on the RIGHT SIDE of the sanctuary facing the cross. Communicants will come forward down the center aisle and receive a wafer to dip in the chalice of wine.*

*\* Gluten-Free Communion is available from the minister upon request.*

### *Taste and See*

*(Join the choir in the singing of the refrain.)*

Refrain



Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the  
Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the  
good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

UNISON

O God, at this table, we have broken the Bread of Life and tasted the Cup of Promise. May the meal we have shared today, revive us and energize us, in body and in spirit. Grant now, that we who have gathered on this Day of Resurrection, will move out as people of hope, people of love, people of light, people of life. Christ is risen! Alleluia and Amen!

✠ HYMN

*Christ Arose!*

✠ BENEDICTION

*May the God of Resurrection,  
Roll back the stones of our hearts, and  
Open us to new beginnings daily,  
Open us to light in darkness,  
Open us to hope in despair;  
And may Easter be practiced every day in our hearts.  
Alleluia and Amen.*

✠ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos

**“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**

✠ POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Voluntary*

Purcell

Todd Butler, trumpet and Holly Oberle, organ

**A PARTING THOUGHT**

*Easter is this beautiful irony:  
Something empty, bringing such fullness.  
May you know wholeness amid this broken world.  
May you have your hope resurrected.  
May you be surprised by joy today.*

- John Pavlovitz



# Christ Arose!

1. Low in the grave he lay, Je-sus my Sav-ior, wait-ing the com-ing day,  
 2. Vain - ly they watch his bed, Je-sus my Sav-ior; vain-ly they seal the dead,  
 3. Death can-not keep its prey, Je-sus my Sav-ior; he tore the bars a - way,

*Refrain*

Je - sus my Lord! Up from the grave he a - rose, (he a-rose) with a

might-y tri-umph o'er his foes; he a - rose a vic-tor from the  
 (o'er his foes)

dark do-main, and he lives for - ev - er, with his saints to reign. He a -

rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!  
 (he a-rose) (he a-rose)

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

### **WELCOME**

Happy Easter! We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us on this most special of Sundays! We are committed to providing “A House of Prayer for All People.” We are seeking to share the love of God through caring, outreach, study, and worship. We invite you to share with us in this journey

### **GREETINGS TO VISITORS**

We extend a special welcome to our visitors and hope that you will return to be with us again soon. We would appreciate having a record of your attendance with us today. Please sign the *Visitor Register* (located in the Narthex next to the Sanctuary doors) and pick up an IFC mug as our welcome gift. Also, please make your presence known to one of our pastors – we would enjoy getting to meet you. Thank you for coming!

If you are interested in joining The Inter-Faith Chapel, or would like more information about this vibrant faith community, please let us know by signing the *Member / Affiliate Register* (located in the Narthex).

### **OFFICE CLOSED**

The Inter-Faith Chapel office will be closed on **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** (no joke!) in observance of the Easter holiday. The Chapel Voice Message system will be checked and responded to as soon as possible.

### **BABY SHOWER**

On **Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, The Leisure World Club to Help the Homeless and Working Poor will be at the Clubhouse I entrance for curbside drop-off of newborn and baby items. The Interfaith Works Clothing Center needs disposable diapers, clothing for newborns, crib sheets, blankets, towels, bath products, etc. Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks should be made payable to The Inter-Faith Chapel and reference “Baby Shower.”

### **INTER-FAITH WOMEN**

The Inter-Faith Women invite you to join them on **Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM** as Spiritual Director Bertie Knisely presents a program about her recent journey to the city of Mbeya located in southwest Tanzania in east Africa. Her presentation will tell of how the Tanzanian based Mercy World Organization NPO is working to “Save The Dreams” of vulnerable children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in that area. Come and learn and enjoy traditional food and art-work of Tanzania. All are welcome.

## **GETTING YOUR LIFE IN ORDER**

Give your family and loved ones the gift of having your end-of-life issues in order. This seminar will be offered on **Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon**. Topics covered will include financial planning, memorial/funeral service planning, advance medical directives, and other valuable matters. A resource notebook is available for a \$17.00 donation. Register by calling the Chapel office by Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **FOOD DRIVE**

The Inter-Faith Chapel Missions Committee is sponsoring a Spring Food Drive on **Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please drop off your non-perishable food items under the portico between the hours of 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The items will be given to Manna Food Center, a local food bank serving Montgomery County.

## **VIEW OUR SERVICES**

Each week, there are various opportunities to view our worship services through our broadcast ministry. Livestream worship of our Sunday morning service is available through a link on our web-page at 10:00 AM. This same service is broadcast on **Leisure World TV** channel 974 at 2:00 PM on Wednesdays and then repeated at 11:00 AM the following Sunday. Worship may also be accessed anytime on The Chapel's webpage ([www.inter-faithchapel.org](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org)) by scrolling down the left column to the date you want to view. Please let those who were not able to attend today's Easter service know that this is available.

## **THE INTER-FAITH CHAPEL**

**3680 South Leisure World Blvd.  
Silver Spring, MD 20906**

**301-598-5312**

**[www.inter-faithchapel.org](http://www.inter-faithchapel.org)**

## **CHAPEL OFFICE HOURS**

**9:00 AM – 3:00 PM ♦ Monday – Friday**

*Rev. Dr. Woodie Rea, Senior Minister*

*Rev. Dr. Ramonia Lee, Minister of Congregational Life*

*Rev. Dr. Robert Perry, Minister Emeritus*

*Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music*

*Bonnie Bonner, Chapel Administrator*

*Joy Dufour, Administrative Assistant*

*Steve Buck, Gary Carpenter, Video Technicians and Sextons*