

**Today's Worship
April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday**

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Rob Bruce

OPENING PRAYERS AND PRAISE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The darkness is gone!

P: Bright light floods into this new day of hope.

L: Those who went to the tomb received good news.

P: Christ was not there!

L: Christ is risen in our hearts and our spirits!

P: Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! Amen!

Pastor and People

MUSIC Christ The Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!

Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!

Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!

Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!

Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!

Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!

Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

All

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Karen Hoyt

LORD'S PRAYER

All

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. AMEN

MUSIC

My Redeemer Lives

I know he rescued my soul

His blood has covered my sin

I believe, I believe

My shame He's taken away

My pain is healed in his name

I believe, I believe

I'll raise a banner

'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

My Redeemer Lives (repeat)

You lift my burden

I'll rise with you

I'm dancing on this mountain top

To see your kingdom come

My Redeemer Lives (repeat)

BAPTISMS

For Bailey Bruce and Bentley Jones

To the Parents: On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,

reject the evil powers of this world,

and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you

to resist evil, injustice, and oppression

in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,

put your whole trust in his grace,

and promise to serve him as your Lord,

in union with the Church which Christ has opened

to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture these children (persons)

in Christ's holy Church,

that by your teaching and example they may be guided

to accept God's grace for themselves,

to profess their faith openly,

and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

To the Congregation: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,

reaffirm both your rejection of sin

and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life

and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to

the example of Christ.

We will surround these persons with a community of love and for-

giveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray

for them, that they may be true disciples

who walk in the way that leads to life.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith

as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by

the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,

died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended

into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come

again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the

body, and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the

Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister and brother in Christ.

Congregation: Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

(see insert)



McEver Road UMC is Praying For:

Family of Jack Anderson (Linda Kern's father)
Family of Joe Durrence (Paul's father)
Dick Fleming
Family of Paul Hagerty
Family of Michael Johnson (Renee Bender)
Tommie Love (community member)
Lee Smee (Lloyd and Florence's son)
Family of Joe Smith (Lydia Beach's stepfather)

Continued Prayers For:

Pat Adams, Noel and Betsy Bassett, Jim Burton, Bill Carman, Brandon Cartledge, Judy Chosewood, Jan Christian, Gary Clark, Terry Dale, Wayne Davidson, Natalie Donatelli, Walter P. Emerson Family, Carolyn and Lloyd Evans, Martha Farr, Shari Gwaltney, Jill Johnson, Michele Lecorchic, Carolyn Lindsley, Thomas Lindsley, Mark Mobarry, Paul Mobarry, Celeste Mullins, Jeff Palulis, Fern Patterson, Jean Pool, Carol and Martha Shay, Shelly Simpson, Lloyd and Florence Smee, Andrea Steptowe, Kya Strickland, Connie Towe, Hannah Turcotte, Sharon Walton, Teresa Wheeler, Linda Yocum, John Young, all fighting cancer

Our Service Men and Women:

Ryan Cantrell, Breanna Cantrell, Christian Edens, Maribel Edens, Robby Harrison, Travis Hutchinson, Kiernan Kane, Keenen McDaniel, Mason McDaniel, Jacob Miller, Zachary Peterson, Darrell Scales

Missionaries:

Ashley Johnson, Christie and Rick Krueger, Ann Milligan

Please contact the church office (770-532-3160) or the Jordans (770-536-9043, ljordan4751@charter.net) for updates to the prayer list.

The Week at a Glance

Tuesday, April 6

Good News at Noon 6PM at Good News
(Jean Prezel jeanprezel@gmail.com, 678-720-6945)

Wednesday, April 7

Bible Study 7:30PM virtual
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Thursday, April 8

Bible Study 10:30AM virtual
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Sunday, April 11

The Current Worship any time via You Tube
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Children's Sunday School 9:15AM virtual
(Chris Hester 678-936-5127, chrishester23@gmail.com)

Current Hearts Adult Sunday School class 10AM virtual
(Debbie Durrence 678-833-1214, debbie.durrence@gmail.com)

Joyful Noise Adult Sunday School class 10AM Bagley Annex and virtual
(John Wright 404-281-9820, grampajohngrumps@gmail.com)

Traditional Worship 11AM on the lawn and streaming online
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Virtual Lift Your Spirits Café 12 noon via Zoom
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Book Discussion Group 4PM virtual
(Rob Bruce 404-906-8276, rob.bruce@ngumc.net)

Tech Help Needed

We need 3 volunteers to be able to fill in for our tech staff when they may not be available. You will be trained in how to use the cameras and manage the sound. We need 3 volunteers as soon as possible to set up your training.

Email Rob at rob.bruce@ngumc.net.

Next Week's Sermon:

Shalom
John 20:19-31



McEver Rd

— CHURCH —

A United Methodist Community

Loving Christ Loving People Helping People Love Christ

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here!



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, filthy rich, dirt poor. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note

in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Methodist than Asbury, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion;" we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts and you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Carol Shay	4/4	Layna Blanton	4/6
John Burgess	4/5	Florence Smee	4/7

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Paul and Debbie Durrence 4/10

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/McEverUMC

Follow us on Twitter: [@McEverRoadUMC](https://twitter.com/McEverRoadUMC)
mceverumc.org

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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rob Bruce rob.bruce@ngumc.net
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care: Rev. Karen Hoyt karenhoyt1@gmail.com
Youth and Children's Director: Chris Hester chrishester23@gmail.com
Church Office: Angela Ivey angelaivey968@gmail.com

BAPTISM **For Marcy Ledford**

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith: (see above)

Do you, as Christ’s body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

Congregation: We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this person now before you in your care?

With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.

We will surround this person with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her trust of God, and be found faithful in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sister in Christ.

As a member of Christ’s universal Church,
will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church,
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

As a member of this congregation,
will you faithfully participate in its ministries
by your prayers, your presence,
your gifts, your service, and your witness?

I will.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

SCRIPTURE LESSON:
Mark 16:1–8 (NRSV)

Rev. Hoyt

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. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. 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. 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.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

MUSIC Still Rolling Stones

Bethany Pulliam

SERMON

A Never Ending Journey

Rev. Dr. Bruce

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION

CONFESSION

Rev. Hoyt

Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. You have celebrated our successes and our growing understanding of your love; and you have mourned our failures and rejections of your healing mercies. This day, as we have gathered to celebrate the joy of Easter, let us remember that we are to become “Easter People,” people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been conquered. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need to serve in this world. For we ask this in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.
AMEN.

ABSOLUTION

Darkness is gone! Light floods into our souls! Christ is Risen! His love and mercy are poured out for you. Rejoice! You have been saved through the gift of Jesus Christ.
AMEN

GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the beginning you set everything in motion, Creator of heaven and earth. With bold ingenuity you splashed the sky with light and stars, sun and moon; wind and clouds, rainbows and winged ones. With a word you brought forth the waters, the waves, the mountains and valleys. And you called forth our lives from the dust and called it good.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter, you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, 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.”

Touch us, O Spirit, with your transforming power. Open us to your promise of resurrection from fear and death. In partaking of these elements, make us a people ready as your Body in and for an anxious world. Let us become your messengers of hope in all that we say and do. Make us one in this purpose, O God.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them to be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, Now and forever.

Sharing of the Elements

Let us here and in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven. We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Let us here and in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing. We are One in Christ in the cup we share.

Prayer of Thanksgiving**SENDING FORTH****MUSIC: Because He Lives**

All

God sent his son, they called him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives.
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child can face uncertain days because he lives.
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.

And then one day, I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he reigns.
Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living, just because he lives.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Hoyt