

April 21, 2024 Worship Guide

Resurrection Story: Found

Co-Pastors: Rev. Ron Harris and Rev. Karla Sheffy

Worship Musicians: Sue Woods, Cheryl Doty & Abby Worley

Ministry of Music: Abby Worley & Natalie Denton



Gathering Up Music

Welcome - Welcoming - Carrie Riggs

Welcome to our KVOE listeners and to those watching online.

My name is Carrie Riggs and this morning I am your worship reader.

Welcome to Emporia First United Methodist Church. We are all beloved children of God. Together, we are a Christian community committed to accepting, valuing, and loving all. We seek to live, grow, and serve as Jesus taught us: loving one another, transforming lives, and making disciples. Let us now worship.

Prelude and Lighting the Candles - Acolytes:

Threshold Moment-Rev. Ron Harris

What is it like to literally not have a home, a place to lay your head at night? "Homeless" can also mean a sense of not feeling "at home," lacking a feeling of belonging, feeling alone even in the midst of others. So many in this world are isolated. How can we find, and offer each other, "home" with the assurance of the presence of God and a beloved community?

Rise up in us and we will rise

From death into a newfound life:

From bondage freed, from harm released,

From illness healed, as one in peace.

When all is lost our hearts are warmed,

Our hope restored, our lives transformed.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Pastor: Jesus appeared among the disciples again. He stood among them and said: "Peace be with you." Yet, the disciples were terrified. They thought they were seeing a ghost.

Carrie: Centering our hearts and minds in peace is a way to feel calm within. We learn to still ourselves to be open to unimaginable possibilities.

Pastor: Jesus asked: “Why are you frightened and why do doubts arise in your hearts?”

Carrie: Doubts play an important role in our faith journey. Facing our uncertainties allows room for our hearts and minds to be filled with healing narratives.

Pastor: “Touch me and see,” Jesus invited, as he offered his pierced hands and feet. Yet, the disciples – even in the midst of their joy – felt disbelief.

Carrie: Sometimes we are presented with signs of hope long before we realize we are not abandoned. Our hearts rejoice, yet our minds still wonder at what we have seen.

Pastor: Jesus asked if they had anything to eat, and the disciples shared a piece of fish, which Jesus ate while in their presence.

ALL: Jesus frequently shows us how to create community in the midst of feeling lost. We can form communities of sustenance and belonging.

We are not alone - we are found - when we share Christ’s call to peace.

Pastor: This is a Word of Hope for the people who long for it.

ALL: Thanks be to the Living Word.

- based on Luke 24:36-43

Opening Song

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

UMH 526

Mission Moment: School Supplies Video and Talk with Caitlin Flood

The Peace—Rev. Ron Harris

You are invited to share the Peace with those around you.

Children’s Message—Rev. Ron Harris

I invite the children forward as we sing our Easter Season Alleluia

“Halle, Halle” TFWS 2026

Halle, halle, halle-luya!

Halle, halle, halle-luya!

Halle, halle, halle-luya!

Halle-luya, halle-luya!

Musical Offering

“Peace I Leave with You” by Timothy Shue

Abby Worley, Voice, Accompanied by Natalie Denton, Cello

A Story of Freedom John 14: 18-28

Scripture Reader - Carrie Riggs

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am

going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I."

Sermon

"Testimony to Home"

Rev. Karla Sheffy

Prayers of the People: Rev. Ron Harris

Song

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

W&S 3104

Lord's Prayer

Opportunities to Live Resurrected

Volunteer Giving: Carrie Riggs

Offering—Rev. Ron Harris

Doxology

"I Love to Tell the Story"
The Savior of our stories
has brought his peace to you;
now go and tell the story,
for others need it too.
To ev'ry one who's hurting
ring out the gospel call;
proclaim that Christ is risen
and grants his peace to all.

UMH 156

I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

Offertory Prayer: Rev. Ron Harris

The Joining of New Members

Closing Hymn

"On Eagle's Wings"

UMH 143

Announcements—Rev. Ron Harris *Family Fishing Event*

Blessing for the Journey—Rev. Karla Sheffy

And now, may you go into the world,
finding your home in love in all the ways you discover you can,
for yourself, for others, for the world.
And may the God who created you to live in harmony with yourself and others,
the Christ who showed you what acceptance and serenity looks like,
and the Spirit who is transforming your life even now,
be with you now and evermore.
Amen.

Rise up in us and we will rise
From death into a newfound life:
From bondage freed, from harm released,
From illness healed, as one in peace.
When all is lost our hearts are warmed,
Our hope restored, our lives transformed.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude