

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

April 5, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Easter Sunday

PRELUDE (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: Hold your head high, Christ has risen.

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Rejoice and shout, Christ has risen.

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Christ has come calling us home,

People: home to the heart of God.

Leader: Home to God's living presence;

People: home to God's banquet feast.

Leader: Hold your head high, Christ has risen.

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Death has been conquered, for Christ has risen:

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Christ has come calling us home.

People: He has renewed and restored us. All that was broken has been made whole. Thanks be to God!

***HYMN** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (vs 1-4) UMH 302

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***BLESSING THE OFFERING**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN OF PREPARATION *He Lives* UMH 310

SCRIPTURE **Colossians 3:1-4 (MSG version)**

¹⁻²So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, *act* like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from *his* perspective. ³⁻⁴Your old life is dead. Your new life, which is your *real* life—even though invisible to spectators—is with Christ in God. *He* is your life. When Christ (your real life, remember) shows up again on this earth, you'll show up, too—the real you, the glorious you. Meanwhile, be content with obscurity, like Christ.

MESSAGE **The Stories Women Tell**

COMMUNION

UMH 13

HYMN *Up From the Grave He Arose*

UMH 322

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *More Like You*

FWS 2167

EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES

POSTLUDE

**Music Director: Mike Nelson
Videographer: Roger Vandegrift
Liturgist: Nancy Wachter**

**St. John's United Methodist Church
312 East Main Street P. O. Box 236
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www.stjohnsfruitland.org
Pastor Shannon Harris
Cell: 410-777-0162
E-mail: pastorslharris@gmail.com**

☪ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☪

TODAY AFTER THE SERVICE:

--Easter Egg hunt

--Fellowship hour

BIBLE STUDY – Meets on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

MISSIONS TEAM MEETING – next Sunday after the service

OUTSIDE CHURCH SIGN – Please see Roger if you would like to donate and support the purchase of the new sign.

FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK – Requests include canned vegetables (potatoes, corn, green beans, carrots), canned meats, corn bread, and spaghetti sauce. Please bring donations by the first Sunday of the month.

APRIL DINNER GET TOGETHER – Will be Monday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Bob Evans. Let Jean know if you will attend.

PRAYER CHAIN – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

NEWSLETTER – Submit information to Paul Nelson at pnelson37@gmail.com

SOCIAL HOUR – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

Memorial Service for Frances Jean Tull

Sat., April 11 at 11 a.m. at Mt. Pleasant Mennonite Church,
2041 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Chesapeake, VA 23322

**Pastor Karen Sadvari can be reached at
610-955-7671**

She will be the on-call pastor during Pastor Shannon's vacation this week.

EASTER FLOWERS 2026

Given in Memory

Bill Elliott	by Lori and Mike Nelson
Buddy and Eleanor Nelson	by Lori and Mike Nelson
Our Parents	by Nancy and John Wachter
Aunt Doris	by Nancy and John Wachter
Michael Carroll Hitch	by Eilene and Carroll Hitch
Katy Hitch	by Eilene and Carroll Hitch
Ed Kern – Our Beloved Husband, Father and Grandfather	by Pat Kern
Unous and Beulah Pennewell Pennewell	by Buddy and Tom
Friends and Family	by Bonnie McAllister
Susan Ledger	by Alice Ledger Ness
Reverend Ike Ledger	by Alice Ledger Ness
Mr. & Mrs. H. Insley Todd	by Nancy and Sam Ruark
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel F. Ruark, Jr.	by Nancy and Sam Ruark

Given in Honor

My Loving Family	by Pat Kern
Bob and Cathy Grim	by Mike and Lori Nelson
Our Church Family	by The Vandegrifts