

Easter Celebration Worship

April 5th, 2015 – Easter Sunday
11:00 a.m.

*A special welcome to today's guests!
We pray that you will feel God's love and peace, and will join us again next week.
Please stand if able.

Welcome		
Prelude	<i>Nun danket alle Gott</i>	Tauscher
Introit	<i>O Sons and Daughters Sanctuary Choir; Pam Dyke, organ</i>	
*Call to Worship		
Leader:	Look, the stone is rolled away!	
People:	HE IS RISEN!	
Leader:	Look, the blood-stained cloth is set aside!	
People:	HE IS RISEN!	
Leader:	Look, the tomb is filled with light!	
People:	HE IS RISEN!	
Leader:	He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!	
*Opening Hymn	<i>Jesus Lives! Alleluia!</i>	Larson
	<i>Sanctuary Choir</i>	
*Centering Prayer		
	Holy God, today your glory and power is made known in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are Easter people because Christ is risen. He is alive! And, where you live, life and light, freedom and salvation, hope and reconciliation break out. You penetrate our lives. You propel us to action. You invigorate our love. All praise and honor and glory be yours as we manifest the risen Christ in our worship and in our lives. Amen.	
Special Music	<i>This Little Light</i>	Leavitt
	<i>Ben Bieryla, Hugh Martin, Ken Ritter, soloists</i>	
Children's Message		
Psalter Reading	Psalms 150	UMH, pg. 862, Response #1
Leader:	"The Word of God for the People of God."	
People:	"Thanks be to God."	
Sermon	"I Can't Believe It!"	Rev. Denise Bates
	Text: Mark 16:1-8 (NLT)	
*Hymn of Response	<i>He Lives</i>	UMH #310
Invitation		

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Merciful and risen Savior, we claim to be people of the resurrection, yet we confess that far too often we do not experience resurrection power. Our prayers are anemic and our faith is shallow. We compartmentalize our lives, placing you on the sidelines of our work, family life and play. We take too much for granted and fail to thank you for the blessings of health, relationships and freedoms. We fail to be good stewards of your creation, and we become discouraged by problems, limitations and failures. Gracious God, forgive our shortsightedness and our lack of trust. Help us to see that you are at work in our lives and in the world. Inspire us to hold fast to you in faith, knowing that you are working all things for good and that because of the empty tomb, we have nothing to fear. *(continue to pray in silence)*

Offering & Offertory	<i>Festival</i>	McChesney
	<i>Carillon Bells; Sam Rusnak, trumpet</i>	
*Doxology		UMH #94
The Great Thanksgiving		
The Lord's Prayer		UMH #895
Sharing the Bread & Cup		
*Hymn	<i>Easter People, Raise Your Voices</i>	UMH #304
*Easter Affirmation		
	We believe in an Easter God, who transforms darkness into light, hatred into tolerance, despair into hope.	
	We believe God is always working for good, changing every Good Friday nightmare into an Easter dream of new possibility.	
	We believe in the risen Christ, who befriends us on our roads of searching and worry; who touches us through song and silence, word and gesture; who calls us by name to enter the dance of life.	
	We believe in the Spirit, the hidden presence behind every resurrection, who beckons us to leave tomblike safety and trust the gracious invitation to live joyfully.	
	We believe the Spirit is always renewing the church and making us a people who practice kindness, encourage beauty and work for justice and freedom.	
	We believe we are an Easter people, a sign that with God all things are possible.	
*Benediction		
Leader:	Believe! Believe the good news! As you leave this morning, go with a joyful heart, confident of God's grace and love. Proclaim the good news without shame.	
People:	Christ is risen!	
All:	Alleluia! He is risen indeed!	
*Choral Response	<i>Hallelujah Chorus (from Messiah)</i>	
	<i>Sanctuary Choir</i>	
*Postlude	<i>Herr Christ, der einig Gottes Sohn</i>	Walther

Front Royal United Methodist Church

Is a Safe Sanctuary

Our “**Power of Two**” policy simply states that no child be left alone anywhere in the church or on a church related activity. It is expected that children will be accompanied at all times, preferably by the parent, guardian or responsible party. If an adult (not including a parent or guardian) is left alone with a child, the adult and child should move to the company of others. In addition, any inappropriate behavior on behalf of an adult or child should immediately be reported to the Church Pastor and/or the Director of Education.

At 8:30 a.m. our “**Service of Word and Table**” is centered around the Lord’s Table and blends all forms of music styles and traditions in participatory worship.

At 11:00 a.m. our “**Liturgical Service**” is based on the order of Worship found in the **United Methodist Book of Worship**. It features the pipe organ, choir & liturgy.

Virginia Conference Bishop: Rev. Dr. Young Jin Cho

Winchester District Superintendent: Rev. Larry Thompson

Ministers: The Entire Congregation

CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Denise Bates, Pastor
Rhonda Thompsen, Office Manager
Melissa Chavez, Minister of Music & Worship Arts
Barbara Robinson, Facilities Manager
Donna Quarton, Business Manager
Pam Waters, Director of EBSCDC
Patti Hinson, Housekeeper

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