

Front Royal United Methodist Church  
Holy Saturday - April 4, 2015

Notes for tonight's worship

**Greeting**

**Introit** "Exsultet" Max Bieryla, Cantor

**Lighting of the Paschal Candle**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Merciful and everlasting God, Creator of heaven and earth, the crucified body of your Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy day. Grant that we may await with him the dawning of the third day and rise in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

**\*Hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane" UMH #290**

The Service of the Word

**The Creation** Genesis 1-2:4a (adapted)

"Crucium Tuam"

Sanctuary Choir; David Bates, soloist

**Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea** UMH #135

**Salvation Offered Freely to All** Isaiah 55:1-11

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

UMH #641

**A New Heart and a New Spirit** Ezekiel 36:24-28

"Spirit of the Living God"

UMH #393

**Buried and Raised with Christ in Baptism** Romans 6:3-11

"At the Font We Start Our Journey" vs. 1 FWS #2114

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 24:1-12

"Tomorrow Will Be My Dancing Day"

Sanctuary Choir; John Brishcar, soloist

**Meditation**

The Service of Table

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

**Receiving the Light of Christ**

"The Strife is O'er"

UMH #306

**Dismissal** Please depart in silence

During the Great Three Days (Triduum), from sunset Holy Thursday to sunset Easter Day, we celebrate the saving events of Jesus Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. The Easter Vigil has both historic and symbolic roots in the Jewish Passover. That is why so many images are from the Old Testament and why so many analogies are experienced in Christ. In this service we experience the passage from slavery to freedom, sin to salvation, death to life. In the earliest centuries, the Easter Vigil lasted the entire night through to the dawn of Easter day. Preceded by a fast day, it was the most holy and joyful night of the entire Christian year, for it proclaimed and celebrated the whole of salvation history and Christ's saving work.

Following Each Reading - please observe a time of silent meditation.

Holy Communion - The United Methodist Church practices "Open Communion"—all who desire are welcomed and served. Children are welcomed and served at their parent's discretion. Tonight, we receive by intinction—dip the Bread in the Cup and eat, thereby receiving the signs of God's grace. Please feel free to spend time in prayer at the altar rail. May God bless you as you commune.

Receiving the Light of Christ - After you receive God's gift of Holy Communion, light your candle from the Paschal Candle, and carry it with you.

Easter Celebration Services

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

Sunrise 6:30 a.m.

(at Methodist Meeting House at Happy Creek)

Contemporary 8:30 a.m.

Easter Celebration Fellowship 9:30 a.m.

Traditional 11:00 a.m.

Professional nursery available on Sunday 8:15a.m. to 12:15 p.m.