

Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

Please contact an usher or greeter to obtain an assisted hearing device

FOR REFLECTION

"A kind of light spread out from her. And everything changed color. And the world opened out. And a day was good to awaken to. And there were no limits to anything. And the people of the world were good and handsome. And I was not afraid anymore."

— John Steinbeck, East of Eden

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sleeper, Awake!

**Rise from the dead and
Christ will shine on you!**

Ephesians 5:14b

*HYMN –

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

#232

*1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

*2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!*

*3 But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!*

*4 Sing we to our God above,
Praise eternal as God's love.
Praise our God, ye heavenly host,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*GREETING OF PEACE

May the Spirit of peace and wisdom be with you all.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

(The Flowering of the Cross is a much-loved Southminster tradition. The Cross is made from branches of the Christmas tree. On Easter morning, flowers are put on the Cross to symbolize new life and resurrection and to complete the story of Jesus's birth, death, and resurrection.

*After the Flowering of the Cross the children are dismissed for
Godly Play & Joyful Path; Youth for Connections & Everyday Leadership)*

Parents: If this is your first time at Southminster Sunday School, please go with your children (age 3-4th grade) and sign them in. Thank you.

RESPONSIVE READING

The Awakening

Rumi

In the early dawn of happiness
you gave me three kisses
so that I would wake up
to this moment of love

**I tried to remember in my heart
what I'd dreamt about
during the night
before I became aware
of this moving
of life**

I found my dreams
but the moon took me away
It lifted me up to the firmament
and suspended me there
I saw how my heart had fallen
on your path
singing a song

**Between my love and my heart
things were happening which
slowly slowly
made me recall everything**

You amuse me with your touch
although I can't see your hands.
You have kissed me with tenderness
although I haven't seen your lips
You are hidden from me.

But it is you who keeps me alive

**Perhaps the time will come
when you will tire of kisses
I shall be happy
even for insults from you**

**I only ask that you
keep some attention on me.**

ANTHEM

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Chancel and Bell Choirs

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 13:25

[Jesus said], "...while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away."

Mark 13:35-37

[Jesus said], "Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Mark 14:37

[Jesus] came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour?"

Luke 8:40-42; 49-55

Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. Just then a man named Jairus, a synagogue official, came up to Jesus. He knelt at Jesus' feet and begged him to come to his house, because his only child, a twelve-year-old daughter, was dying....

While he was still speaking, someone from the synagogue official's house comes and says, "Your daughter is dead; don't bother the teacher any further."

When Jesus heard this, he answered him, "Don't be afraid; just have trust, and she'll be cured."

When he arrived at the house, he wouldn't allow anyone to go in with him except Peter and John and James, and the child's father and mother. Everyone was crying and grieving over her, but he said, "Don't cry; she hasn't died; she's sleeping."

But they started laughing at him, certain that she had died. He took by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" her breathing returned and she immediately got up. He ordered them to give her something to eat.

John 11:12

Jesus said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I'm going to wake him up."

ANTHEM

Antiphon

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 27:51-53

[Jesus...surrendered the spirit]. And suddenly the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth quaked, rocks were split apart, and tombs were opened and many bodies of sleeping saints came back to life. And they came out of the tombs after his resurrection and went into the holy city, where they appeared to many.

I Corinthians 15:6

Then [Christ] appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

I Corinthians 15:20

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

I Thessalonians 4:14

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Romans 13:11

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers.

Ephesians 5:11-14

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

*'Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.'*

SERMON

Sleepers, Awake!

Rev. John Shuck

***HYMN**

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

#231

- 1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumour.
Christ is risen, God is here!*
- 2. Christ has risen for the people
whom he loved and died to save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
is not silenced by the tomb.*
- 3. Christ has risen and forever
lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,*

*all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen. Christ is present
making us what he has been –
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.*

**A TIME FOR OFFERING
INVITATION TO GIVE
MUSIC FOR OFFERING**

Hymn to Joy

Bell Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

**Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering
When we are giving, or when receiving,
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.**

***PRAYER**

Prayer of Jesus

John Philip Newell

**Ground of all being,
Mother of Life,
Father of the universe,
Your name is sacred, beyond speaking.
May we know your presence,
may your longings be our longings
in heart and in action.
May there be food for the human family today
and for the whole earth community.
Forgive us the falseness of what we have done
as we forgive those who are untrue to us.
Do not forsake us in our time of conflict
but lead us into new beginnings.
For the light of life,
the vitality of life,
and the glory of life
are yours now and for ever.
Amen.**

***HYMN**

Christ Is Alive!

#246

***(As we sing this hymn, those who wish to join the Chancel Choir to sing the
Hallelujah Chorus are invited to gather with the choir).***

1. *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.*

2. *Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now,
and conquer every place and time.*
3. *In every insult, rift and war,
where color, scorn or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.*
4. *Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*
5. *Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.*

***BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

***HALLELUJAH CHORUS** G.F. Handel - Hallelujah Chorus (from *Messiah*)

*Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. (Revelation 19: 6)
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord,
and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 11: 15)
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Revelation 19: 16)
Hallelujah!*

***MUSIC FOR LEAVING**