Liturgical Elements for Sunday, April 9th, 2023 Easter Sunday

Salvation!?!: Salvation through Transformation

First Congregational UCC of Menomonie

Ringing the Bell

Declaration

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed!

Fanfare/Candle-Lighting "Jesus Our Lord is Risen Today" Chancel Choir

(Gordon Young)

*Call to Worship

Leader: The stone has been rolled away. The grave clothes are lying in a heap.

All: The body is gone. Mary weeps.

Leader: Why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?

All: With Mary, we proclaim: We have seen the risen Lord!

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen Indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

O God, our Resurrection and our Life, we have traveled in Jesus' footsteps this past week: from triumph to conflict to gathering to solitude to betrayal, arrest, conviction, flogging, and crucifixion. It was a grueling week for Jesus and his followers. And yet, out of the greatest suffering and the deepest despair, you brought Jesus through death into life. And somehow, you do the same for us. We offer you our awe and gratitude at the mystery of resurrection. Lead us, ever, in your Way of transformation and new life. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Hymnal #123

Readings Agnes Welsch

John 20:1-18

from Ladder to the Light, by Steven Charleston

Anthem "Alleluia" Bell Choir

(Hurlburt)

Sermon The Song Love Sings Rev. Kathleen Remund

Hymn "Christ Is Alive!" (vs. 1, 3, 4, 5) Hymnal #108

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Annual Meeting Announcement

Offertory "Our Lord is Risen" Chancel Choir

(Joseph Martin)

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

God of Resurrection, may these gifts be used to bring renewed life in our world: Hope to the despairing; joy to the depressed; peace to the dismayed; love to all of your children, everywhere. We give this offering to this church, your servant, in the name of your Son, the Resurrected One. Amen.

Closing Hymn "The Day of Resurrection!" Hymnal #118

Benediction

Leader: As Christ burst forth transformed from the tomb, may new life burst forth from

us. May it show itself in acts of love and healing. And may the same Christ, who is the source of our new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace this

day and always.

All: Amen.

Hallelujah Chorus Congregation

Postlude Evelyn Rohrbach

Thanks to all who purchased plants to beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

Please take your plants with you after the service.

- The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Dedication and Benediction were adapted from ones written by Joanna Harader and posted on her blog, *Spacious Faith*, https://spaciousfaith.com.

| - | The Prayers of the People are adapted from one written by Katherine Kussmaul, Saint Giles Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC, posted on <i>LiturgyLink</i> and re-posted at https://re-worship.blogspot.com . |
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