

When we feel no one cares and no one wants to listen to us, or we cry out for help from deep down inside, hear us and teach us to say:

**He lives, to bless me with his love;  
He lives, to plead for me above;  
He lives my hungry soul to feed;  
He lives to help in time of need.**

If we are scared death will be the end of us, and our worn-out bodies will only turn to dust and ashes, and if we think this life is all there is, then lead us to rejoice in the promises you make and teach us to say:

**He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives, my mansion to prepare;  
He lives, to lead me safely there.**

Every time we visit those pronounced terminally ill, or each time we gather round the coffin of a friend and loved one, point us to our risen Lord Jesus and teach us to say:

**He lives, all glory to his name;  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy the blest assurance gives,  
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

In confidence and joy, we celebrate the good news of the resurrection through Jesus Christ our Lord, praying the prayer he taught us to pray...

**Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

\*SONG AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION Hymnal 95

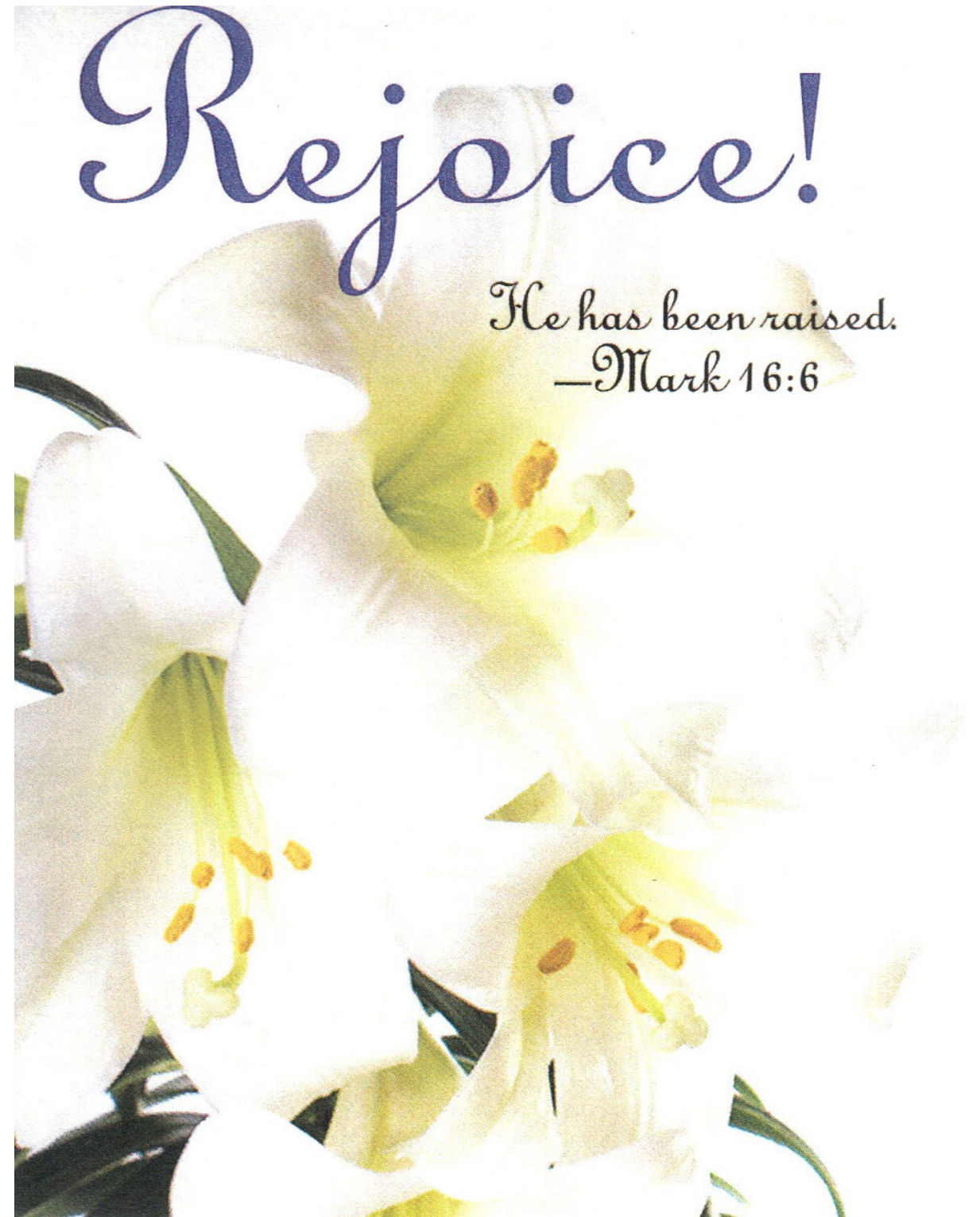
\*CLOSING HYMN "Up From the Grave He Arose" Hymnal 322

\*BENEDICTION

\*RINGING OF THE BELLS

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*



**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Lake Odessa, Michigan**  
**Rev. Karen Sorden**

**April 16, 2017**

**10:30 a.m.**

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**GATHERING**

*Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.*

**WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Karen Sorden

*Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.*

*Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)

The stone is rolled away.

**Christ is Risen!**

The shroud is removed.

**Christ is Risen!**

The tomb is empty.

**Christ is Risen!**

Share the Good News.

**Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed!**

\*OPENING HYMN

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Hymnal 302

*Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets.*

\*A CANTICLE FOR EASTER (congregation in bold)

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne!

**Jesus Christ our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!**

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King!

**Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!**

Rejoice, O Holy Church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you!

**Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.**

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices

**we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful God, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.**

This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain,

**whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.**

This is the day when Christians everywhere are washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement,

**are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.**

This is the day when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death,

**and rose triumphant from the grave.**

God, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love!

**To ransom slaves, you gave away your Son!**

Day truly blessed, when heaven is wedded to earth,

**and we are reconciled to God!**

Therefore, O God, in the joy of this day,

**receive our sacrifice of praise, your church's solemn offering.**

May the Morning Star which never sets find the flame of our love always burning.

**May Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead, shed his peaceful light on all the world.**

**ANTHEM**

"Roll the Stone Away!"

Chancel Choir

*Hank Beebe*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

"He's Alive!"

Rev. Karen Sorden

**John 20:1-18**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

"He Lives"

Hymnal 310

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAISES**

**A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

EASTER PRAYER (congregation in bold)

O Holy Spirit of God, you are the Lord and giver of life. We thank you for the good news that Jesus is alive, and that through you, he is present with us today. You have changed our futures from despair to hope. Fill us with your joy in the Easter news which gives us a share in the greatest victory of all. When we feel death creeping up on us, and a shiver goes up our spine, fill us with confidence in Christ and teach us to say:

**I know that my Redeemer lives.**

**What joy the blest assurance gives!**

**He lives, he lives, who once was dead;**

**He lives, my everlasting Head.**

*(Continued on last page)*



**EASTER LILY MEMORIALS**  
**April 16, 2017**

***In Memory of . . .***

Reiser Family  
Cusack Family  
Ted Sr., Ted Jr., Daughter Kathy  
Audra & Arnold Cunningham & Phyllis Miller  
Smith, Oaks, and Noffke Families  
Our loved ones that have gone before us  
Meniffee Miller  
Bob, Betty, Tony Logan  
John, Greta, Ken Bytwerk

***Presented by . . .***

Tom & Shelly Reiser  
Phylis Armstrong  
Jackie Cunningham  
Marilyn Noffke  
Ed & Bonnie Leak  
Helen Miller  
Marcia (Logan) Bytwerk

***In Honor of . . .***

Leah Abbott

***Presented by . . .***

Elaine Garlock

**GIFTS TO WORLD HUNGER**

***In Memory of . . .***

Smith, Oaks, and Noffke Families

***Presented by . . .***

Marilyn Noffke

**>>Please take your lilies home after today's service.<<**

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**TRUSTEE'S SPRING CLEAN-UP**



Please join with the Board of Trustees and other volunteers to help with our Spring Clean-up of the church property on **Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>** after coffee fellowship. Wear your work clothes to church! Bring your gloves, rakes, brooms, shovels, and other outdoor tools needed to tidy up the lots and alley. There isn't anything major planned at this time.

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**MINISTER:** Every Member of This Church  
**PASTOR:** The Rev. Karen Sorden  
**SECRETARY:** Kim Stoepker  
**ORGANIST:** Marilyn Noffke  
**CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Jackie Cunningham  
**CUSTODIANS:** Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela  
**TODAY'S SERVICE:**

***Audio/Visual***

**Today:** Chuck Rayner / Shelly Reiser  
**Next Sunday:** Same

***Coffee Fellowship***

**Today:** Open  
**Next Sunday:** Open

***Greeters***

**Today:** Del & Jane Kostanko / Jane Lawther  
**Next Sunday:** Same

***Nursery***

**Today:** Brenda Steele / Penny Thelen  
**Next Sunday:** Mary Dykhouse / Judy Freidhoff

***Ushers***

**Today:** Kim & Dawn Deardorff  
**Next Sunday:** Same

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**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call  
Pastor Karen at the parsonage (374-8294).**

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS**

Patty Anderson  
Susan McDaniels  
Kathy Shelmat  
Ron Gobel

Brian Rayner  
Judy Laidler  
Unspokens  
People in flood areas

Fran Morris  
Rachel Mutchler  
Austin Begley  
Unspoken

**Continued in Prayer**

Sgt. Branden Curtis  
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston  
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr  
1SG Nicholas Ludema  
PFC Jason Hilley  
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow  
Ross McDowell  
Nadine Speas  
Family of Dean Watrous

Karl Klynstra  
Ginny Kruisenga  
Dale Patterson  
Toni Robinson  
Phylis Armstrong  
Pam Coleman  
Susan McDaniels  
Karie Hilley  
Brian Rayner

Gary Smith  
Ed Hilliker  
Dave & Sue Steeby  
Hank Minenna  
Susan Steele  
Sharon Brink  
Terena Galaviz  
Jim Decker

**Our Special Friends**

Leah Abbott  
Lois Goodemoot  
Phil Shetterly

Margot Bailey  
Marian Klein

Ada Dennie  
Joanne McDaniels

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

4/19 Rita Bigelow  
4/19 Allen & Kathy Decker – 42 years  
4/20 Matt & Ashley Singh – 4 years  
4/21 Bob & Karen Avery – 55 years  
4/21 Bob & Char Kendregan – 33 years

**OUR PARTNERS IN MINISTRY**

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa  
Hastings Hope UMC, Hastings  
Nashville United Methodist Church, Nashville

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**EVENTS**

Mon 4/17 *Church Office Closed*  
**Finance Committee Meeting** – Front Room 6 pm  
A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm  
4/18-4/19 *Pastor Karen out-of-office to Workshop*  
Wed 4/19 Choir Rehearsal – *Sanctuary* 7 pm  
Thur 4/20 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm  
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6:00 pm  
Fri 4/21 Pastor's Sabbath - *Church office closed*  
Sun 4/23 Worship Service – *Sanctuary* 10:30 am  
**Board of Trustees Spring Clean-up** *following coffee fellowship*  
Mon 4/24 **Staff-Parish Relations Committee** – Lounge 7 pm  
A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm  
Wed 4/26 **Friendship Group** – Fellowship Hall 9 am – 12 pm  
Choir Rehearsal – *Sanctuary* 7 pm  
Thur 4/27 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm  
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6:00 pm  
Fri 4/28 Pastor's Sabbath - *Church office closed*  
*Rental – Sanctuary* 6:00 pm  
Sat 4/29 *Rental* – Sanctuary/F.H. 3:00 pm  
Sun 4/30 Worship Service– *Noisy Offering* 10:30 am  
CROP Walk – Fellowship Hall *Registration begins at 1:00 pm*  
Mon 5/1 A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm  
Tue 5/2 **Fresh Food Distribution** – Back parking lot 2 pm  
**Worship Committee** – Front Room 7 pm  
Wed 5/3 *No choir rehearsal*

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See Von Goodemoot or Kay Barcroft today if you'd like to walk in the **Lakewood Area CROP Hunger Walk** on April 30. If you can't walk, you can still help this worthy cause by donating to one or more of our Central walkers. Donation envelopes are in Fellowship Hall. One-fourth of all funds raised come back to our community to support the Lakewood Community Council.

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