

# Easter Sunrise

## The Work of the People for April 17th, 2022

The liturgical color is white, symbolizing the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

### Gathering for Praise

#### GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

My brothers and sisters in Christ:

On this most holy morning in which Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, we gather as the Church to watch and pray.

This is the Passover of Christ, in which we share in Christ's victory over death.

#### OPENING PRAYER

**God of life, through Jesus Christ  
you have bestowed upon the world the light of life.  
Sanctify this new fire,  
and grant that our hearts and minds may also be kindled  
with holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising,  
that we may attain to the feast of everlasting light;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The light of Christ rises in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death.  
**Christ is our light!**

### Hearing God's Word

#### THE CREATION

With a word God creates order out of the primeval, watery chaos.

God's good creation reaches its pinnacle in humankind, the bearer of God's image.

Scripture                      Genesis 1:1 –5; 26-2:1

Hymn                              'Morning Has Broken'                      UMH 145

**Almighty God, you wonderfully created, yet more wonderfully restored,  
the dignity of human nature.  
Grant that we may share the divine life  
of the One who shared our humanity,  
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

#### ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

The ruler who kept God's people in slavery pursues them to the Red Sea as they try to escape. Despite a hopeless situation, God rescues God's people, leading them on dry land through the parted sea and closing the waters on their former masters. Miriam then sings a song about God's marvelous deliverance.

Scripture                      Exodus 14:29-15:6

Hymn                              'Lead On, O Cloud of Presence'                      TFWs 2234

**God our Savior, as once you delivered by the power of your mighty arm  
your chosen Israel through the waters of the sea,  
so now deliver your Church and all the peoples of the earth  
from bondage and oppression, to rejoice and serve you in freedom,  
through Jesus Christ our Deliverer. Amen.**

#### NEW LIFE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

The prophet Ezekiel sees a vision: God will take the dry bones of God's people, reconnect them, breathe into them, and restore them to life.

Scripture                      Ezekiel 37:1 –14

Hymn                              'Breathe on Me, Breath of God'                      UMH 420

**Eternal God, you raised from the dead our Lord Jesus  
and by your Holy Spirit brought to life your Church.  
Breathe upon us again with your spirit and give new life to your people,  
through the same Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

#### BURIED AND RAISED WITH CHRIST IN BAPTISM

The apostle Paul reminds us that in Christ we have already died, drowned in baptism. Yet we who have died are raised to newness of life.

Scripture                      Romans 6:3 –11

Hymn                              Alleluia                      UMH 186

#### GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:13-35  
*Jesus is the Word of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God!*

## Responding to God's Word

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world.

**We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious.**

Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News.

**Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ.**

Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace.

**In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb found empty.

Mary calls out, "I have seen the Lord!"

We have seen Christ, too, in every helping hand, in every heartfelt gift, in every choice to restore life in this world.

We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation.

You are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and know that God loves you and desires great joy for your life.

Walk forward on this journey of faith, knowing your brothers and sisters are with you. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## Going Forth to Serve God's World

HYMN 'Day of Arising' W&S 3086

### SENDING FORTH

Christ is risen!

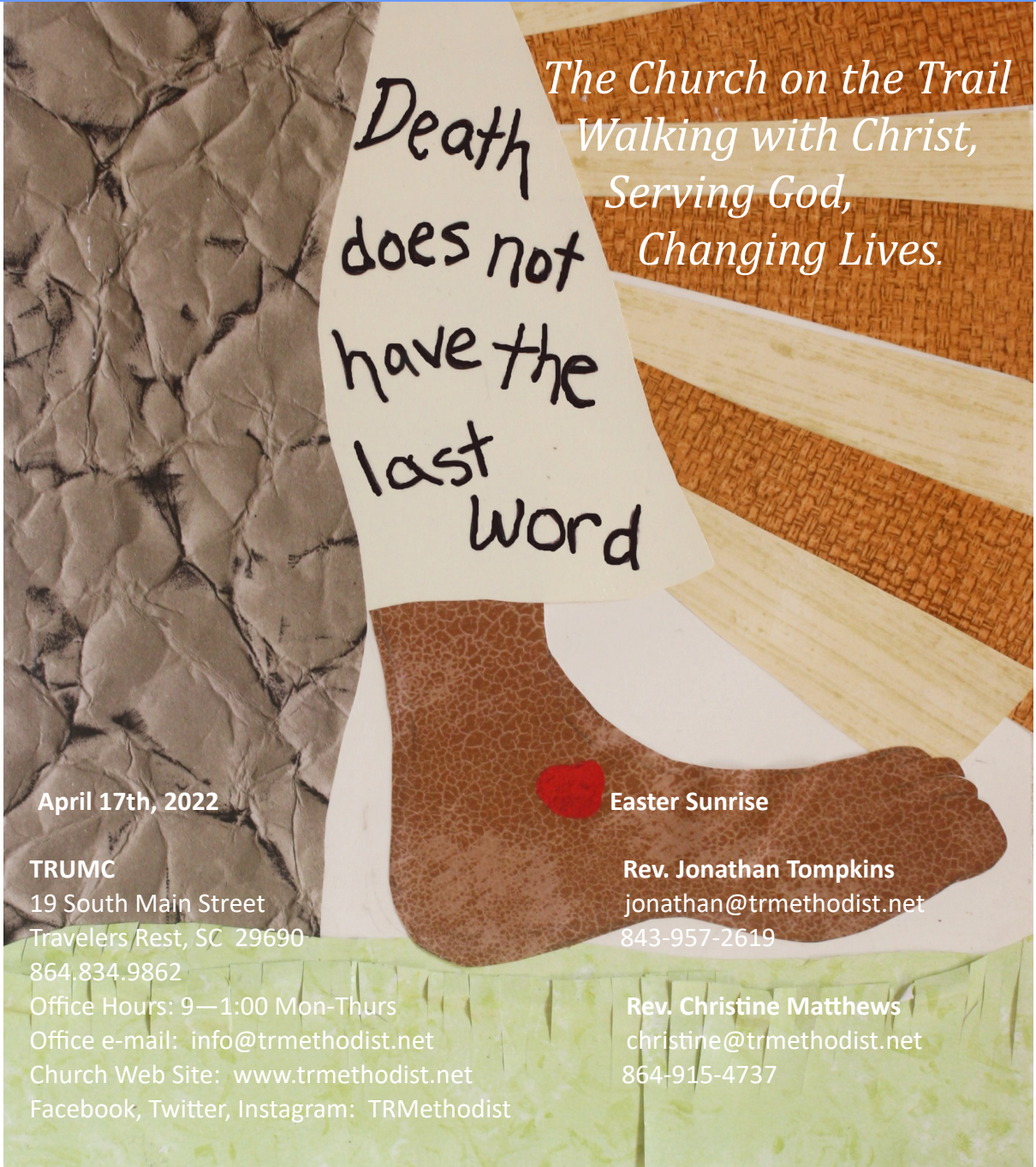
**Christ is risen indeed!**

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Prayer of Confession written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell (<http://rev-o-lution.org/>)

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# Travelers Rest United Methodist Church



*The Church on the Trail  
Walking with Christ,  
Serving God,  
Changing Lives.*

Death  
does not  
have the  
last  
word

April 17th, 2022

Easter Sunrise

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