

FULTON

UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH



*Icon of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene
Crete, 16th Century*

ALLELUIA!

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5th, 2026

ENTRANCE

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **The Lord is risen indeed!**

Glory and honor, dominion and power be to God for ever and ever. **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Procession

Because He Lives

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, **have mercy upon us.**

* Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302

* Act of Praise

Christ our Passover

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all;

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead,

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death,

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die,

so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

* Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

Risen Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit
and raise us to know from the scriptures the good news of the resurrection. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

* Psalm

Psalm 29

FOUNDATION/
UMH 529

1 Ascribe to the Lord, all you ones of great might;
Ascribe to the Lord glory, strength in your sight.

2 Ascribe to Him glory, and His name adore;
In splendor of holiness, worship the Lord.

3 The voice of the Lord is above the great sea;
He thunders in glory; o'er waters is He!

4 The voice of the Lord, full of power and might;
His voice is majestic and flaming in light.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars in two;
The cedars of Lebanon, He does subdue.

6 The Lord makes all Lebanon skip like a deer.
Mount Hermon is like a young ox when He's near.

7 The voice of the Lord strikes with flashing of light.

8 His voice shakes the desert of Kadesh with might.

9 The voice of the Lord strips the forests all bare;
And all in His temple, His glory declare.

10 The Lord sits enthroned o'er the flood – He is King.
The Lord on His throne sits forever as King.

11 The Lord gives His people His strength without cease.
The Lord is the One who will bless them with peace.

*(translation from the
Seedbed Psalter)*

* Gloria Patri

UMH 70

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

* Hymn

He Lives

UMH 310

* Gospel Lesson

John 20:1-18

Children's Story

Sermon

Seek the Things Above

Anthem

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Baptismal Covenant

Jaxon Lane Catt, Darby Cate Steele, and Ashlee Jean Steele are presented for baptism. Emelyn Clare Lilley and Joanna Abigail Lilley are presented for confirmation.

As prompted, the congregation will join in these responses:

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

...

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

...

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sisters and brothers in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

...

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the People

As we join in prayer together, you will hear each petition end with the phrase "Lord, in your mercy." We respond together saying, "Hear our prayer."

Invitation, Confession, and Pardon

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GUEST CONNECTION

If you are visiting with us today, we rejoice that you are here and would love the opportunity to help you get to know Fulton UMC! We invite you to complete a guest connection card in the attendance pads or at fultonumc.churchcenter.com.



NEXT STEPS

Whether you are here for the first time or have been here for your lifetime, today is a great day to consider your next step in following Jesus. For some ways to learn, grow, and serve alongside us, visit FultonUMC.org and click the “Next Steps” button in the bottom right corner.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday School – *All classes at 10:00: Adults meet in the sanctuary, elementary school students and youth upstairs*

Nursery – *Children of all ages are always welcome in our worship services! A nursery is also available upstairs during worship for those who wish to use it.*

Wednesday Night Studies – *Women’s Bible Study, Youth Small Group and Confirmation Classes, and Kids 4 Christ elementary school group at 6:00 at 513 S. Clifton St.*

LIFT – *5th Grade Bible Study at LAC; Mondays at 12:30*

Choir Practice – *Our choir is always recruiting! Contact Jenny Jenkins at jenny@fultonumc.org for more information.*

Midweek Prayer at ICC Wesley Foundation – *Wednesdays at 12:15. The service is designed to last 15-20 minutes. Students and community members welcome!*

GIVING AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Because We Care – *The Because We Care Committee provides meals for families after funerals. You can give by check with a memo noting “Because We Care.”*

Building Fund – *Help us build for the future! You can give by check with a memo noting “building fund.”*

Food Pantry – *Boxing on third Fridays at 5:00 pm and distribution on third Saturdays at 7:45 am at the Fulton Grammar School*

Beds for Kids – *Let Smith know if you’d like to be a part of our Beds for Kids delivery team when needs arise.*

ICC Wesley Foundation – *The Wesley Foundation is the Methodist college ministry at ICC. Learn more at iccwesley.org.*

Blessing Box – *You can place nonperishable food items for those in need in the box outside the church.*

FIND US ONLINE

Website – FultonUMC.org

Facebook – facebook.com/FultonMethodist

Instagram - @FultonMethodist

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mary Lillie Black	<i>Charleston Place</i>
Mary Joe Gosa	<i>The Meadows</i>
Mary Lee O'Neal	<i>Countrywood Plantation</i>
Ann Wheeler	<i>Charleston Place</i>
Barbara Collum	<i>Charleston Place</i>
Marshall Sage, Jr.	
Mike Eaton	
Jeanie Watkins	
Beth Shotts	
Tula Young	
Emmett Sitton	
Joan Shell	
Ann Iazard	
Todd Cowart	
Sandy Webb	
Sherry Watkins	
Sandy Clements	
Matt Clements	
Terry Leigh Clayton	
Abby Loden	
Sandra Nanney	

Prayer concern updates can be sent to Smith (smith@fultonumc.org) or Diane Mink (diane@fultonumc.org).

SPECIAL GIFTS

Building Fund – Mary Lillie Black

SERVICE DURING WORSHIP

Greeter – Leslie Groome

Acolyte – Alexis Lilley

Crucifer – Abigail Lilley

CHURCH CENTER

You may give online or keep your roster information updated at fultonumc.churchcenter.com.

