

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age

I John 3:11,16-18

¹¹ For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

I John 4:10-12, 16-21

¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Love, Hope, a place to Belong

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PINE ISLAND
Love, Hope, a place to Belong

Pastor Carolyn Westlake
April 23, 2017, 1st Sunday After Easter
UMH (United Methodist Hymnal) **FWS** (Faith We Sing)
(*Indicates for Congregation to stand if able)

Announcements / Birthdays & Anniversaries

Time of Reflection

Pianist Joel Blair

****Hymn #428 (UMH)** *For the Healing of the Nation*

****Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Lisa Beyer

L: Know this:

P: Jesus was a man sent by God.

L: Listen carefully to these words:

P: God raised Jesus from the dead!

L: Know this:

P: We are witnesses to God's power.

L: Listen carefully to these words:

P: God frees us from death.

L: Come and worship the God who never abandons us.

P: We worship with hearts full of joy.

****Hymn #432 (UMH)** *Jesu Jesu*

Children's Sermon

Bill Brueck

Joys and Concerns / Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

****Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Scriptures

Hymn #569 (UMH)

We've a Story to Tell to the Nation

Message

Sierra Leone Mission Team

Giving of Our Tithes and Offering - Please sign Pew Pad.

****Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below, praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

****Offertory Prayer**

You, O God, are our refuge. You provide for us and keep us from stumbling. You offer us life itself and the deep peace of your presence. We offer ourselves to you this day, trusting in your grace. We affirm that you are our God. May these gifts honor you, as they continue your work of offering the world a living hope. Amen.

****Hymn # (UMH)**

Benediction / Greeting/ Postlude

Prayer for Living Generously

Gracious and Generous God, send your Holy Spirit to:

- Break through and renew and revive our churches, unleashing your gifts of radical hospitality, saving grace, and abundant life on a broken world.
- Empower our clergy and lay leadership to offer you, O God, all the gifts you have bestowed upon them.
- Boldly use me, without limits, delays or excuses to live generously and serve the full arrival of your reign on earth.
- Create in me a generous heart and a desire to live in your presence with ever-growing gratitude.

I pray in the name of Jesus whose love, mercy and justice know no bounds.

Amen

Fellowship: Please join us for fellowship time following the service downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. **Nursery:** Available for your use.