



Duke Memorial United Methodist Church

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Durham, North Carolina 27701

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STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2003

8:45 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC "We Buried Him, Not Knowing"



We bu - ried him, not know - ing that on the third day morn a



ris - en Christ would greet us and hope would be re - born. Though



e - vil had ex - tin - guished the life that burned as bright, the



love of God would tri - umph like dawn that ends the night.

*GREETING

Day has dawned and shadows are left behind.
The stone is rolled away and hope is reborn.

This is the day that our God has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

God opens to us the gates of righteousness.

We enter to give thanks to our God.

We give thanks, for our God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Set your mind on things that are above.

Look up and welcome Christ's appearing.

We have been raised with Christ.

Glory is being revealed to us on this holy day.

*OPENING HYMN

"Christ Has Risen"

#2115

OPENING PRAYER

God of amazing surprises, the story of Easter is ever new. Suddenly we are aware of your presence with us. We had lost touch with you. Our minds were full of worries and distractions, set on things of this earth. Our spirits felt the grip of death. Jesus seemed a legend from the past, not a real person who shared our common lot. But today, you awaken something new within us. We hear the cry, Christ is risen, and we want to respond. Dry our tears and call our names. We need the glad news of Easter. Amen.

THE STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

The stations are located on the second floor of the Education Building... there are four rooms for you to visit, each with a different theme to remind you of some aspect of God's gift to us of the Resurrected Christ. You may visit the rooms in any order... you may stay in each room as long as you would like... there are some questions included here to guide you in your meditation process for each room... when you are finished with all of them, please move to the lobby area outside the main church office where you can receive the gift of an origami Easter lily. If the weather permits, your journey will be completed in the courtyard, if not, in the Sanctuary.

THE GIFT OF CREATION (Logo = World)

Here you will find beautiful images and sounds of God's created order... feel free to sit and partake while you contemplate these questions:

What is your place in the created order? How does that make you feel? Do you feel small?... integrated?... significant?... responsible?... unified with the rest of creation? Is the order in which God created things significant? Are we called to be care-takers of God's creation? How does it make you feel that God entrusted us with the care of the created order?

THE GIFT OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER (Logo = Candle)

Here you will find a burning candle in front of the cross, signifying God's presence in our lives. You will have the opportunity to carry someone's needs to God in prayer and light a candle to signify that prayer being lifted up to God's care. Contemplate the following:

For whom or for what concern are you lighting this candle? What is the identified need that you are carrying to God's presence? What would you ask for God to provide in your own life?

After praying, spend a few moments in quietness, listening for that "still, small voice" where God's Spirit might speak to you.

THE GIFT OF GOD'S PEACE (Logo = Rock)

Here you will find a container of stones and a bowl of water. Take a rock and hold it in your hands while you contemplate on what burdens you need to leave in God's care, then place the rock in the water and turn loose of those burdens. Contemplate:

What burdens or cares would you bring to God and leave in this place? In your mind, can you place those burdens into the physical symbol of the rock? Place the rock gently into the water and watch it float to the bottom... pray that God will give you release from the burden you placed here. Remember to pray for those burdens which are represented by the other rocks in the bowl... ask God to bestow peace upon all who have prayed here.

THE GIFT OF NEW LIFE (Logo = Wheat Seed)

Here you will find a small container of soil and seeds to be planted. Place a few seeds on the soil, tamp them into the soil with your finger, lightly water it, and then ask yourself:

What must die within me in order for me to live abundantly in God's grace? God has promised to use that which we will release to die, by bringing forth new fruit in our lives. Think about which fruits of the spirit are most present in your life, and which you wish to ask for in a more abundant way: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control.

Take your small cup of seeds with you and nurture it on a sunny window ledge in your home... when the seeds sprout, remember what you discovered on this Easter morning.

Now move to the office area on the first floor, and from there to either the front courtyard, or the Sanctuary where Rev. Lisa and Rev. Ruth will be waiting to bestow an Easter blessing on you.