



**Accompaniment Play List and Sermon available on YouTube at**

<http://bit.ly/OUMC04-05-2026>

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Acts 10: 36-39a WEB**

<sup>36</sup> The word which he sent to the children of Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all – <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; <sup>38</sup> how

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses of everything he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem

**INTROIT UMH #364**

**“Because He Lives”<sup>1</sup> (refrain)**

<https://youtu.be/KS78KpoYB3Y>

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
Because he lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know...

he holds the future,  
And life is worth the living  
just because he lives

**OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty God,  
On this glorious Easter morning, we come before You with hearts full of praise! The stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty, and Jesus Christ is alive forevermore. Lord, You have turned our mourning into joy, our fear into faith, our darkness into dawn. As we gather to worship, fill us with the power of resurrection life. Let

every word and song proclaim, “This is the day You have made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!” Pour out Your Spirit among us, O God, that we may meet the risen Christ here – alive in our worship, alive in our hearts, and alive in our world. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen

**AFFIRMATION**

**“The Apostle’s Creed”**

**UMH # 881**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And 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, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
and the dead.  
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. 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.

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!  
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!  
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!  
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

6. King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

**ANTHEM (Suggested)****"Living Hope"**<https://youtu.be/9f2FXxDVO6w>

Phil Wickham

**SCRIPTURE LESSON****Psalm 118: 1-4, 14-17 WEB**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,  
for his loving kindness endures forever.  
<sup>2</sup> Let Israel now say  
that his loving kindness endures forever.  
<sup>3</sup> Let the house of Aaron now say  
that his loving kindness endures forever.  
<sup>4</sup> Now let those who fear Yahweh say  
that his loving kindness endures forever.  
<sup>14</sup> Yah is my strength and song.

He has become my salvation.  
<sup>15</sup> The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the  
tents of the righteous.  
"The right hand of Yahweh does valiantly.  
<sup>16</sup> The right hand of Yahweh is exalted!  
The right hand of Yahweh does valiantly!"  
<sup>17</sup> I will not die, but live,  
and declare Yah's works.

**JOYS & CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER**

Almighty and Ever-Living God,  
On this glorious morning we lift our hearts in  
praise – because the stone has been rolled  
away and the tomb is empty! You have  
conquered the power of death and broken the  
chains of fear.  
Lord Jesus Christ, You are our resurrection and  
our life. When we were buried in sorrow, You  
called us by name. When all seemed lost, You  
breathed peace into our hearts and hope into  
our future.  
For those who come today carrying grief or  
doubt, breathe Your Easter Spirit anew.

*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*

Remind us that Your love endures forever,  
Your peace surpasses understanding, and Your  
presence never leaves us – even in the dark  
places of life.  
Strengthen Your church, O God, that we may  
rise up in joy and carry this good news into a  
weary world. Let our words proclaim what our  
hearts believe: "He is not here; He is risen!"  
And as we go forth from this place, help us to  
live as Easter people – people of courage,  
compassion, and unshakeable hope.  
We pray this in the mighty name of Jesus  
Christ, our risen Lord...who taught us to pray...

*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.*

## **HYMN UMH #303**

## **"The Day of Resurrection" <sup>3</sup>**

<https://youtu.be/49hPB6NTVEE>

1. The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the passover of gladness,  
the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over,  
with hymns of victory.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil,  
that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal  
of resurrection light;  
and listening to his accents,  
may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,  
may raise the victor strain.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful!  
Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph,  
and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen  
their notes in gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord hath risen,  
our joy that hath no end.

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

## **Matthew 28:1-10 WEB**

<sup>1</sup> Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> Behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from the sky and came and rolled away the stone from the door and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him, the guards shook, and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> The angel answered the women, "Don't be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus, who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, just like he said. Come, see the place where the Lord

was lying. <sup>7</sup> Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead, and behold, he goes before you into Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you."

<sup>8</sup> They departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring his disciples word. <sup>9</sup> As they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" They came and took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.

<sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid. Go tell my brothers [a] that they should go into Galilee, and there they will see me."

## **MESSAGE**

## **"The Day Everything Changed"**

**Rev Jim Canody**

<https://bit.ly/Sermon04-05-2026>

Easter morning begins not in celebration, but in confusion. The women came to the tomb expecting to anoint a body, not to meet an angel. They brought grief, not joy – until heaven broke the silence with those words that still echo through the ages: *"He is not here; He is risen!"*

When those words were spoken, the world's story bent in a new direction. Death lost its final word. Hope began to breathe again.

**Years ago, there was an old clockmaker in a small town who repaired the town's large church clock. One night the clock**

stopped ticking, and no one noticed until morning. But when he climbed up to fix it, he said softly, "It hasn't died – it's just waiting to be wound again."

The resurrection is God's hand "**winding the world,**" turning what looked stopped and lifeless into something that moves again.

Today, let's look at three scenes of resurrection hope:

1. A Psalm that reminds us of God's enduring love.
2. A testimony that declares God's saving power through Jesus.
3. An empty tomb that calls us to fearless faith.

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever."*

The psalmist doesn't write these words from an easy chair but from a battlefield of life and faith. Psalm 118 was sung at festivals of victory and thanksgiving – **AFTER** deliverance, not before it.

Easter begins the same way: with a song of joy rising from a place of struggle. God's love doesn't endure only when things are good – it endures **through** the darkness that led to the cross.

**At sunrise services around the world, people will stand in cold air, wrapped in blankets, waiting for the first light to rise. They know it may be chilly, but they also know dawn is coming. That's Easter faith: standing in the chill of life's shadows, confident that the light of God's love will rise again.**

So, we gather today to say with the psalmist, "*His love endures.*" It outlasts death, disappointment, and despair. It

carries us from Friday's fear to Sunday's joy.

*"You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. God anointed Jesus... and He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him."*

This is Peter preaching in the house of Cornelius. He speaks as a changed man – one who denied Christ but was restored by grace and empowered by the resurrected Lord.

The resurrection turned Peter's guilt into testimony, his fear into courage, his silence into witness.

The good news of Easter is not only that Jesus rose – but that He still creates resurrection stories in people's lives.

Through the cross, He forgives; through the resurrection, He fills us with peace and purpose.

**A rescue team once found a miner trapped underground after an explosion. When they reached him, they asked, "How did you survive all these hours in the dark?" He pointed to a little beam of light from his helmet and said, "That tiny light helped me remember the sun still shines above."**

Peter was that miner – trapped in darkness – but the risen Christ became His light. And now Peter tells the world: "*Peace through Jesus Christ who is Lord of all.*"

That's our Easter news too. The living Christ walks into the rooms where we lock ourselves in fear and says, "*Peace be with you.*"

*“The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said.’”*

The angel’s first words are the same words God has spoken to His people since the beginning: *“Do not be afraid.”*

Easter isn’t just a moment of surprise – it’s the undoing of fear itself.

The women came trembling, but they left running – with joy rushing faster than their tears. Resurrection faith always moves us – from despair to action, from grief to mission.

**During World War II, a group of prisoners secretly built a small radio. Late one night they heard the news that Allied forces had landed successfully – liberation had begun. They still looked like prisoners, still behind barbed wire, but something had changed. They walked differently, smiled in the face of suffering – because freedom had already started.**

That’s resurrection life. The world may still hold its Good Fridays, but we walk with Easter freedom – the battle already won, the future already open.

So, the angel’s words come to us too: *“He is not here; He is risen.”* The grave is empty, and so is our fear.

From the psalmist’s song, we learn that God’s love never quits.

From Peter’s message, that Christ still brings peace.

From the angel’s announcement, that fear must bow to faith.

Every Easter, heaven repeats that truth to earth: *“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”*

Your story, your faith, and your future hinge on those words – He is risen. Because He lives, your yesterday can be forgiven, your today can have peace, and your tomorrow can hold hope.

**A missionary in Africa once shared how a group of new believers carved on their church door the words: *“The grave is only a doorway.”***

They believed what Easter means – that through Jesus, death has become an entryway to life that never ends.

So, this morning, stand where the women stood. Listen again to the angel’s voice.

And go tell the world: *“He is not here. He is risen.”*

That’s not just a historical event – it’s the promise that still remakes every heart that believes.

**“Because He lives, we can face tomorrow – and not just face it, but walk into it with joy.”**

**Let us Pray:**

Risen Lord Jesus,

We thank You for the light of this day – the day everything changed. You have rolled away the stone of despair, broken the grip of fear, and filled our hearts with living hope.

Lord, make the truth of Your resurrection more than a story to us – make it the power that shapes our lives. Let Your victory over the grave become our courage in the face of sorrow, our peace in seasons of doubt, and our strength for the days ahead.

As we leave this place, help us to carry Easter with us – to speak peace where there is conflict, to bring hope where there is despair, and to live love where there is hate.

We give You thanks, O Christ, for You are not here among the dead – You are risen, and You reign forever.  
In Your mighty and victorious name we pray, **Amen.** †

**HYMN UMH #322**

**“Up from the Grave He Arose”**

<https://youtu.be/URZMphq1dc0>

1. Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,  
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

**Refrain:**

**Up from the grave he arose;  
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;  
he arose a victor from the dark domain,  
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

2. Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior,  
vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!  
(Refrain)

3. Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;  
he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!  
(Refrain)

**BENEDICTION**

Go now with the joy of Easter in your hearts.  
The tomb is empty, Christ is alive, and God's  
steadfast love endures forever.  
May the peace of the risen Christ guard your  
hearts, may the power of His Spirit fill your

lives, and may the light of His victory guide  
your steps this week and always.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and  
of the Holy Spirit –  
go in peace and in resurrection power. Amen.

**RESPONSE UMH #364**

**“Because He Lives” (refrain)**

<https://youtu.be/c9b7NNRdveE>

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;  
Because he lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know...

he holds the future,  
And life is worth the living  
just because he lives

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<sup>1,5</sup> **Because He Lives**, UMH #364, Authors: William & Gloria Gaither, Tune: Resurrection, Composer: William J. Gaither, © 1971 Hanna Street Music, CCLI 16880

<sup>2</sup> **Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**, UMH #302, Author: Charles Wesley, Tune: Easter Hymn © Public Domain

<sup>3</sup> **The Day of Resurrection**, UMH #303, Author: John of Damascus, Tune; Lancashire, Translator: John Mason Neale, Composer: Henry T. Smart © Public Domain

<sup>4</sup> **Up from the Grave He Arose**, UMH #322, Author and Composer: Robert Lowry © Public Domain



- The United States of America, other countries around the world, and our leaders
  - War-torn areas including Ukraine, Israel & the Middle East
  - Americans serving in the armed forces and in dangerous foreign diplomatic posts.
  - Our missionary in Cambodia, Clara Mridula Biswas.
  - Persecuted Christians
  - The United Methodist Church and The Virginia Annual Conference
- Claudia Harmon
  - Dixie Guy
  - Beth McMath Byam
  - Kevin Daley
  - Ryan Custis
  - Nancy Dix
  - Don Bowling
  - Norman Bowling
  - Linda Beasley
  - Nancy Guthrie and her family
  - Charlie Russell
  - Rodrick Drummond
  - Virginia UMC Bishop & her Cabinet
  - Lynn Bell
  - Laura Moore
  - Venezuela and Iraq
- The Democratic Republic of the Congo
  - Tyler Nickel
  - Drew Edwards
  - Brandon Pruitt
  - Those affected by Hurricane Melissa
  - Susan Taylor
  - Our Youth Sunday School
  - Rolland Elliot
  - Phyllis Edwards
  - Denis Curtis
  - Bobby Wood
  - Alice Denny
  - Roy Ballard
  - Linda Beloke
  - Terry Johnson
  - Ron McCabe
- Alma Reid
  - Rose Dryfus
  - Nancy Bisker
  - Ken Spain
  - Susan Fletcher
  - Camp Occohannock
  - Crystal Foti
  - Peggy Byrd
  - Tom Webb
  - E. A. McMath
  - T.K. Fitchett
  - Betty Turlington
  - George McMath
  - Rosilee Lewis
  - Dianne Nickel
  - Travel Mercies
  - Unspokens

✠ *Special prayers for the family and friends of:*

- Jimmy Via
- Tom Gladstone
- Patricia Phillips
- Brandon Shah
- Sandra Cooper
- Claudia Savage Webb
- James Laws
- Emily Kellam
- Dottie Milliner
- Nelda LoFaso
- Roy Ballard
- Dick Jenkins
- Victims of gun violence

Please share your joys and concerns with Pastor Jim at : [jimcanody@vaumc.org](mailto:jimcanody@vaumc.org) or call 703-861-2023

Website: <https://www.onleyumc.org/>

Google Review: <https://g.page/r/CW9SLu50qxK6EBU/review>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/OnleyUMC/>.

YouTube Channel: <http://bit.ly/OUMC-YouTube>

Join our email chain: [onleymethodist@gmail.com](mailto:onleymethodist@gmail.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Linda Ross (April 18)  
Bob Bell (April 18)

Don Bowling (April 22)

Bill & Dianne Nickel (April 14)  
Butch & Mary Paul Harmon (April 16)



**Thank you for your dedication to the ministries of Onley UMC!** We greatly appreciate your gifts, tithes, and prayers. Your contributions are important to the life and mission of OUMC. **Checks, made payable to OUMC** should be mailed to:  
**Onley UMC, P. O. Box 216, Onley, VA 23418**



**Youth Group**  
Meeting @ Epworth this  
Sunday 4-6 PM

### Holy Week Schedule

*Palm Sunday, March 29th - Worship @ 11 am*  
*Maundy Thursday, April 2nd - Worship @ 7pm*  
*Easter Sunday, April 5th*  
*Sunrise Service at Al & Bev McMath's home 6:30 AM (dress for the weather)*  
*Breakfast at Church after the sunrise service*  
*Easter Worship @ 11:00 am*  
*Easter Egg Hunt after the Service*



**UWF FOOD DRIVE SUGGESTED ITEMS:**

- Lean Canned Protein (Tuna, Chicken, Turkey) • Peanut Butter • Beans • Canned Fruits • Canned Vegetables • Cereal & Oatmeal • Pasta & Sauce • Rice • Crackers • Granola Bars • Pancake Mix • Soups, Stews, and Chili • Boxed Meals • 100 % Fruit Juice • Condiments • Flour • Cooking Oil • Herbs & Spices • Personal Hygiene Items • Baby Products

**BIBLE STUDY**  
Thursdays @ 1pm

Save the Date!

Onley United Methodist Church's

## Ham & Clam Dinner

Friday, April 24, 2026

**COAT CLOSET MISSION!**

We continue to accept cash donations as well as coats, hats, scarves, jackets, and gloves during the year. Please either email us at [jre11@verizon.net](mailto:jre11@verizon.net) or call 757.710.1524 and leave a message to arrange pickup or drop off.

Monetary donations may be sent to Onley UMC, P O Box 216, Onley, VA 23418; please note "coat closet" in the memo section of the check.

**Camp Occohannock NEWS**

Summer 2026 Registration Underway! Less than 100 days til Camp! Waitlists are already starting to form...Register now [ootbay.org](http://ootbay.org)

**WISH LIST:**

You can help by supporting the camp with donations to their wishlist year round (craft items, snacks, tools, furnishings, activities, etc) found on Amazon at <https://amzn.to/4kKI8qG>