

i thank You God for most this amazing  
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

*Alleluia*

(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth  
day of life and love and wings: and of the gay  
great happening illimitable earth)


*Alleluia*

how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any—lifted from the no  
of all nothing—human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?

*Alleluia!!*

(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

—e.e. cummings

April 20, 2025		9:30 a.m.
<b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)</b>		
	11 W. Pine St. Butler, MO 64730 660-679-3066	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:admin@fccbutler.org">admin@fccbutler.org</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://fccbutler.org">fccbutler.org</a> <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/FCCButlerMO">@FCCButlerMO</a>

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Sharla Hulsey

*In order to respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. If you need to add someone, please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray as it is passed.*

The Sacred Harp Quarantine Chorus—Easter Anthem  
(William Billings/Edward Young)

*The Lord is risen indeed! Hallelujah!*

*Now is Christ risen from the dead,  
And become the first fruit of them that slept.  
Hallelujah!*

*And did he rise?  
Hear, O ye nations! Hear it, O ye dead!  
He rose! He burst the bars of death,  
And triumph'd o'er the grave.*

*Then I rose!  
Then first humanity triumphant  
Pass'd the crystal ports of light,  
And seiz'd eternal youth.  
Man, all immortal, Hail!  
Heaven, all lavish of strange gifts to man,  
Thine all the glory! Man's the boundless bliss!*

Welcome and Announcements

Don Malan, Elder

*If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video.*

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman, Lynda Perkins

*Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary*

\*Call to worship (please rise as able)

Don Malan & Congregation

L: The Lord is risen!

P: He is risen indeed!

\*Dramatic Reading & Opening Hymn

*"Crown Him with Many Crowns" - CH #234*

v.1 - Jennifer Schmehl, Phyllis McBrayer, & Choir

vv. 2, 3, 4 - Congregation

\*Invocation

Don Malan & Congregation

God of all glory:

On this first day of the week you began creation,  
bringing light out of darkness.

On this first day you began your new creation,  
raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death.

On this Lord's Day, grant that we,

the people you create by water and Spirit,

may be joined with all your works

in praising you for your great glory.

Through Jesus Christ in union with the Holy Spirit,  
we praise you now and forever. Amen.

Prayer Hymn

CH #216 (all)

*"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"*

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sharla Hulsey

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading Don Malan & Congregation  
 Psalm 118:1, 4, 14-17, 21-24 (*Chalice Hymnal*)  
 L: O give thanks to the LORD, who is good,  
 whose steadfast love endures forever!  
 P: Let those who fear the LORD say,  
 “God’s steadfast love endures forever.”  
 L: The LORD is my strength and my might;  
 P: The LORD has become my salvation.  
 L: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:  
 P: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;  
 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;  
 the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”  
 L: I shall not die, but I shall live,  
 P: and recount the deeds of the LORD.  
 L: I thank you that you have answered me  
 and have become my salvation.  
 P: The stone that the builders rejected  
 has become the chief cornerstone.  
 L: This is the LORD’s doing;  
 it is marvelous in our eyes.  
 P: This is the day that the LORD has made;  
 let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Special Music Adult Choir  
*“Resurrection Joy”*

Scripture Carol Lewis  
*Luke 24:1-12*

Congregation Hymn CH #224 (all)  
*“Christ Arose”*

Message Sharla Hulsey  
*“The women have lost their marbles.”*

Invitation to Discipleship Sharla Hulsey

\*Invitation Hymn CH #226 (all)  
*“He Lives!”*

Musical Interlude Mary Coffman

Offering Meditation Diana Rich

Tithes & Offerings Diaconate  
*Offering trays will be passed in the pews.*

\*Doxology CH #47  
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures  
 here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and  
 Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication Don Malan

Call to Communion Sharla Hulsey

Communion Hymn CH #420 (all)  
*“I Come with Joy”*

Words of Institution Sharla Hulsey

Communion Prayer Don Malan

Distribution of the Elements Diaconate  
*Everyone is welcome at Christ’s Table. Those who are comfortable doing so,  
 please come forward down the center aisle to partake at the table. Deacons will  
 serve those who remain seated.*

WE DEPART TO SERVE

\*Benediction

*Taking the Light of Christ into the World*

Sharla Hulsey

\*Closing Hymn

*"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"*

CH #225 (v. 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- OUTREACH MISSION - Our Outreach Department is collecting hygiene products to support individuals and families in need. Your generosity makes a big impact in helping others. We are looking for donations of shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, deodorant, bar soap/body wash, disposable razors, and feminine hygiene products.
- KETCH-UP CAMPAIGN  
Campaign Goal: \$20,000; Amount Raised: \$10,236
- FAITH ADVENTURES CAMP RALLY - Sunday, April 27 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Camp Galilee, El Dorado Springs.
- BOARD MEETING - Sunday, April 27 after worship
- VBS MEETING - Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m.
- Graduation Recognition & Celebration for Owen  
We are excited to recognize and celebrate a special milestone in the life of Owen Cunningham-Arnold! Recognition will be during worship service on Sunday, May 4 @ 9:30 a.m.. Immediately following the service, please join us for a celebration lunch in Owen's honor!

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, Apr. 20:	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship Life Group
Wednesday, Apr. 23:	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	Youth Group Choir Practice
Friday, Apr. 25:	9 a.m.—12 p.m.	Son Shine Ladies

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, Apr. 27:	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 3 p.m.—6 p.m.	Worship Board Meeting Camp Rally
Monday, Apr. 28:	6 p.m.	VBS Meeting
Wednesday, Apr. 30:	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	Youth Group Choir Practice
Friday, May 2:	9 a.m.—12 p.m.	Son Shine Ladies

*\*Please rise as able*

SERVING TODAY

**Pastor:** Sharla Hulsey

**Elder:** Don Malan

**Deacons:** Carol Lewis,  
Bob Thomas

**Greeter:** Chuck & Carol Lewis

**Scripture Reader:** Carol Lewis

**Choir Director:** Carol Ann Winburn

**Accompanist:** Mary Coffman





# Wonder: The Inside Story

"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them."  
- Luke 24:1-12 (Full Story)



# Wonder: The Inside Story

Supporting general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Received in most congregations  
**Sunday, April 13 & 20, 2025**  
or two alternative Sundays in your congregation

Luke 24:1-12

At the break of dawn, the women came to the tomb, expecting to find the body of Jesus. Instead, they were met with an empty grave and messengers who proclaimed, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!" (Luke 24:5-6).

## Astonishment. Awe. *Wonder.*

Inside the tomb, the story changes. Inside the sacred witness of the community gathered to prepare the body of Christ, disciples are moved to wonder. The resurrection fills us with the same wonder that gripped the first witnesses of the empty tomb. It is the wonder of love stronger than death, of hope that defies despair, of a risen Christ whose presence transforms the world.

On Easter, we gather as one body, across many places, cultures, and languages, to celebrate and live inside this wonder together. Through the Easter Special Offering, we respond to the miracle of resurrection by sharing Christ's boundless love in tangible ways. Your gifts support ministries that proclaim that Jesus is alive and active, from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth:

- Health and social service ministries that offer care to those in need.
- Mental health resources to support pastors and congregations.
- New worshiping communities gathering in diverse languages and styles.
- Leadership development programs raising up new voices for the church and world.
- Chaplains in hospitals and the military providing spiritual care across the globe.
- Stewardship education to nurture a spirit of generosity.
- Global mission partnerships supporting communities facing conflict and climate challenges.
- Gatherings like the General Assembly, where the church comes together in faith and purpose.
- And so much more...

Just as the disciples ran in wonder to see the empty tomb, we too are called to run toward the work of resurrection—bringing healing, hope, and new life into the world. This Easter, let us respond to the wonder of the risen Christ by investing in ministries that make Christ's love known.

### **The Easter Offering supports these general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):**

Center for Faith and Giving, Obra Hispana, Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Disciples Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, and Treasury Services.

Please give generously to the Easter Offering on Sunday, April 13 and 20 or two alternative Sundays in your congregation using the giving envelopes or online at [disciplesmissionfund.org/give](https://disciplesmissionfund.org/give).