

We Respond to God's Word

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

With thanksgiving, praise, and joy, we worship you, marvelous God. How amazing is all your creation! How glorious is this day of new life! Come among us now, we pray, to raise us up from our fears, doubts, weakness, laziness, and perplexity. We believe Jesus has died and risen for us. We want to trust. We want to dare. We want to live. Touch us today with a spirit of hope, that our discipleship may honor Christ. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND

OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison

Thank you, God, for resurrection. We rejoice in Christ as the first fruits of all that you make available to us. As you offered Christ to the world, so we would offer ourselves. May we, along with our gifts, testify to good news of your forgiving love and empowering acceptance. Amen!

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

*CLOSING HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

UMH 302 (vs. 1 & 3)

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Jenny Lee

*POSTLUDE

Worship Resources "Gathered by Love" by Lavon Bayler.

Upper St. Croix Parish

ONE Parish THREE Churches:

Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls

April 17th, 2022

"Easter Sunday"

**The United Methodist Church**

8:30 AM at Central-Grantsburg with Online Zoom Service

9:45 AM at Atlas

11:15 AM at St. Croix Falls with Online Zoom Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parish Office: 715-463- 2624 St. Croix Falls Office: 715-483-9494

www.upperstcroixparish.org<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

Upper St. Croix Parish
Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls
April 17th, 2022
“Easter Sunday”

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Christ is risen!”

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sing the glad songs of victory;

God is creating a day of newness and joy.

**God is our strength and our song;
this is the day of our salvation.**

Christ has been raised from the dead,

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**The one who was rejected assures us;
we are accepted and beloved by God.**

We are chosen by God as witnesses to good news.

We will live and recount the deeds of our God.

**God reigns; let all nations and people rejoice.
In Christ, all shall be made alive. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN** *Thine Be the Glory* **UMH 308 (vs. 1 & 3)**

OPENING PRAYER Unison **(The Book of Worship)**

God of life, through Jesus Christ you have bestowed upon the world the light of life. Sanctify this new fire, and grant that our hearts and minds may also be kindled with holy desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ’s rising, that we may attain to the feast of everlasting light. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

UMH 191 (vs. 1)

Proclamation of God’s Word

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

John 20:1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13 They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSIC OF MINISTRY (C)

APRIL CHURCH MISSIONS

ATLAS

Mission committee chair: Peggy Frederickson

<p>INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:</p> <p>Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges and cell phones year round.</p> 	<p>Support Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry</p> 	<p>SUPPORT UKRAINE</p>  <p>Funds collected will be sent to UMCOR to help Ukraine.</p>
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GRANTSBURG

Mission committee chair: Deb Hammer

<p>BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!</p> <p>REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY! Supporting the Salvation Army's "Happy Kids Back-Pack Program"</p> 	<p>Donations will be sent to UMCOR to support the people of Ukraine.</p> 
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ST. CROIX FALLS

Mission committee chair: Kate Murtaugh

 <p>Food Shelf</p> <p><i>(Communion Sunday)</i></p>	<p>Sailor Hat Offering:</p> <p><i>April's Sailor hat offering will go to support UKRAINE.</i></p> 
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Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers

All God's People

Pastor Jenny Lee

Today's Service

Central:

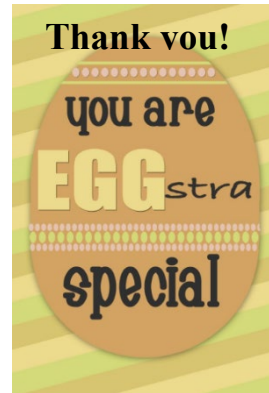
Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	Confirmands
Snow Removal	Stan Chute
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland
Fellowship	All Together (Easter Breakfast)
Counter	Volunteer Needed
Cleaning	Charlie Glonek and Sandra Erickson
Sunday School	Younger/Older
	LuAnne Martell/Barb Loomis

Atlas:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Sue Olson
Usher(s)	Don Schween
Cleaning	Volunteer Needed
Sunday school	Younger/Older
	Cheryl Olson/Jamie Steffen

St. Croix Falls:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Jim Andrews
Usher(s)	Karen Sciacca
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Sciacca
Flowers	Kathy Gionis



BREAKTHROUGH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK:

“This kind can come out only by prayer” (Mark 9:29)

Please pray every morning at 8:30, if you are able!

“Please pray for Ukraine, and its people and its leaders!”

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **An Online Zoom Service is scheduled for this Sunday at 8:30 am and 11:15am.** The link will be posted on our parish website and Facebook page.
Click the LINK to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84147808460?pwd=SDZleFNubmEvaDBlcytTRzVxMFIIZz09>
Phone: +1 312 626 6799,
Meeting ID: 841 4780 8460, Passcode: 568271
- 2) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 3) You can hear "the service by Phone," whenever you are able by calling 1-715-298-0854.
- 4) You may watch a recorded video of the service on our parish Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

This Week's Calendar:

Today: Easter Sunday. Christ has risen! Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ our Lord!

**We have 2022 signup sheets for volunteers. Please find a spot where you can be a part of the church. We are the church, which is growing in faith together.*

*** Congratulations to the following people who received a certificate for participating in Lenten Bible Study: Barb Loomis, LeAnne Martell, Karen Sciacca and Kathy Gionis.**

*** We appreciate those who joined, supported and prayed for the Holy Saturday Event. We especially give thanks to the church leaders!**

Sunday Worship Service:

- 4/17: 8:30 am Grantsburg with Zoom...EASTER BREAKFAST followed by service
9:45 am Atlas
11:15 am St. Croix Falls with Zoom
- 4/19: 1:30pm, Ad Council Meeting (A)
6:30 pm, Ad Council Meeting via Zoom (G)
- 4/20: 4:00 pm, Go Fish for Kids (G)
6:30 pm, Youth Gathering (G)
- 4/21: 4:00pm, Ad Council meeting(SCF)
- 4/23: 9 am -1 pm, Kids' Poster Competition sponsored by American Legion (G).
All kids are invited!

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Allison Reid 4/17
Jon & Pat Bjork 4/17
Doug Kunze 4/21



Next Sunday (April 24th) Volunteers:

Ministers All God's People
Pastor Jenny Lee

Central:
Pianist Toni Koons
Liturgist *Volunteer Needed*
Snow Removal Stan Chute
Acolyte(s) Willow Nyland
Fellowship *Volunteer Needed*
Counter *Volunteer Needed*
Cleaning Charlie Glonek and Sandra Erickson
Sunday School Younger/Older
LuAnne Martell/ Barb Loomis

Atlas:
Pianist Sharon Asp
Liturgist *Volunteer Needed*
Usher(s) *Volunteer Needed*
Cleaning *Volunteer Needed*
Sunday School Younger/Older
Volunteer Needed

St. Croix Falls:

Pianist Sharon Asp
Liturgist Jim Andrews
Usher(s) Karen Sciacca
Money Counter Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer Jim Sciacca
Flowers Kathy Gionis
Fellowship Ad Council Members (3rd Sunday)



**4/27: CRAFT GROUP GATHERING-MAKING TISSUE FLOWERS
CONFIRMATION CLASS**

4/30: BARB & JIM LOOMIS CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY

April 17th, 2022
John 20:1-18



Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.
Upper St. Croix Parish UMC

“Jesus Has Risen for You.”

I want to start with something funny. I heard about three Catholic ladies: They boasted about their sons. One lady said, “My son is a priest. When he walks into the room and talks to people, they call him, ‘Father.’” The other lady said, “My son is a bishop. When he walks into a room and talks to people, they say, ‘Your Grace.’” The third lady said, “My son is a broadcaster, six feet three inches tall, is incredibly good looking, and dresses impressively. When he walks into a room and talks to people, all the ladies say, ‘Oh my God!’”

What would you like to boast about? Is it that you have wonderful children? Is it that you have lots of property? Is it that you have received a higher education? The Apostle Paul says, “May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world” (Galatians 6:14). If you would like to boast about anything, boast about the Lord. I don’t think we have anything to boast about rather than what Jesus did for us. Jesus died; Jesus rose from the dead; Jesus will come again because of us; because he loves us so much.

Today, I want to talk about “Jesus, our Lord has risen for you!” Jesus has risen! Jesus is resurrected! Praise the Lord! Hallelujah! The story of Jesus’ resurrection is not a fantasy novel. It is a historic truth. It is not only in Israelite history but also our history. If you believe that Jesus is resurrected for you, you may see God’s miraculous work in your life. In other words, when you

believe that Jesus has risen for you, you may have the experience of being born again. The Apostle Paul reminds us that in Christ, we have already died, drowned in baptism. Yet, we who have died are raised to newness of life by the grace of God (Romans 6:3-11).

I want to share my story. As I mentioned before, I grew up in a patriarchal family of Confucian religion. While female family members had very limited rights, they had too many responsibilities. I have experienced women's difficulties directly and indirectly through my mother. When my mother delivered me, a baby girl, my grandfather didn't allow the delivery room to be heated even though it was winter. My mother and I had to endure a very cold room. During my childhood, I was prohibited from singing and painting. When I was a teen, they didn't allow me to go to high school because I was a girl.

My mother used to always obey my grandparents. But, when she faced an issue regarding her children's education, she began to go against my grandparents. My father struggled between my mother and his parents and then started drinking. There were arguments, fighting, and a broken relationship among family members. Finally, my parents decided to leave my grandparents' house for the benefit of their children's education. After my family left my grandparents, we struggled financially because my grandparents didn't help support us any longer. My parents lived in a room with five children for about ten years. My father, who has lived in the rich house of my grandparents, struggled and became an alcoholic. My siblings and I spent our teens in shame of being poor and of our drunken father. However, my mother was strong and worked hard to survive and keep the family together. Eventually, my mother got sick, and she couldn't find a way to cure her stomach illness for a long.

One day, one of my neighbors brought my mother to a prayer house on the mountaintop to heal my mother's illness. She said to my mother, "God may heal you. Let's go and pray to God for your healing." My mother prayed there, fasting for three days, and remembered that she was baptized by an American missionary and attended a church when she was a child. She repented and prayed that she would bring all of our family to the church. She was healed and began attending church with her young children. However, it upset my grandparents, my father struggled being in the middle of my grandfather and my mother, and he drank more. We tried to bring my father to the church. However, the more we tried to bring my father to the church, the more my father drank and made mistakes. The people in town called us the drinker's children. We realized that we had to pray for my father. It was like a fight in spirit as the Apostle Paul says, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 6:12).

We prayed for my father every morning. His drinking lessened. Finally, he was baptized on Easter morning in 1993. It was a moment our whole family was born again. We cried with gratitude and joy. My father strongly suggested my grandfather remove the Confucian Temple and change our patriarchal family customs. And then, not much later, my grandparents became Christians. Later on, my father said to me, "I believe that Jesus died for me and rose for me, and he still loves me. When you become a pastor, I will work for the church as a custodian for the rest of my life."

Hope for transformation is not far from you. As long as you don't give it up, God will hear your prayers and make things happen. Even though you feel your prayers are not heard by God yet, don't give it up. Your Easter morning comes soon because God is still working for you.

When you believe that Jesus' resurrection is for you, you may taste the joy of resurrection in your life.

In today's scripture, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb of Jesus early on the first day of the week. The first day of the week means "Sunday," and it means that three days later, after Jesus died. We can't find why Mary Magdalene went to the tomb of Jesus in the early morning, in today's scripture, but we may find the reason in the other Gospel Books, such as Mark and Luke. They went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with spices, the Israelite's custom. She found Jesus was not there, cried as if she had lost Jesus' body, and told the disciples. They came and looked at his empty tomb but just returned home. At that time, no one remembered what Jesus talked about during his resurrection. Mary Magdalene didn't return home and cried. Angels asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" Mary said, "They have taken my Lord away, and I don't know where they have put him." And then, Jesus was present in front of her.

My dear family in Jesus Christ! If you think your situation hasn't change yet, even if you have been praying for it, please consider what it would be like if you lost Jesus from the center of your life. Please look for the Living Jesus, not the dead body of Jesus, and invite him to your heart and the center of your lives. As Jesus died for you, he has risen for you. Jesus Christ is our Lord, and your Lord, and my Lord. Our collective confession of Jesus our Savior is important, but our individual confession is also more important. The Lord died and rose for each of us. Let us say to each other, "Jesus has risen for you." You can do everything in Jesus Christ, who empowers you because he has risen for you. Thanks be to God. Amen!