

Greater love has
no one than this, that
one lay down his life
for his friends.

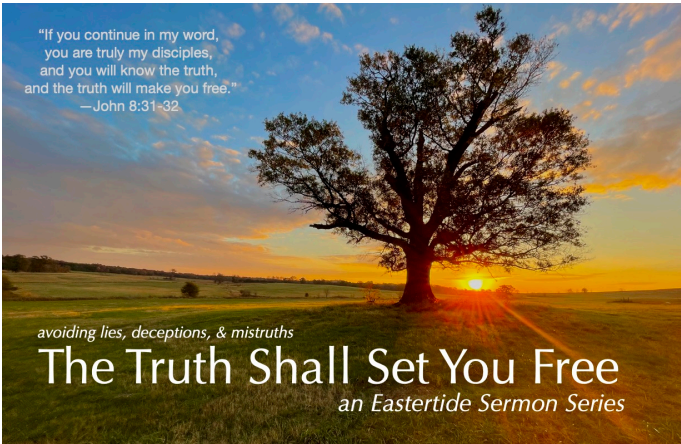
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JOHN 15:13

EASTER

A Joyful Community of Faith, loving God
by serving all people including the least,
the last, and the lost.

The Day of Resurrection

Christ is Risen! Happy Easter! This is the day of Resurrection. A day to celebrate with music, ritual, and liturgy, and you will find our worship service filled with these ancient ways of celebrating Christ's resurrection. We open with a processional of bell ringing, and then we stand for the rising of the light, the lighting of the Paschal Candle (the original name for Easter) when we sing our "Alleluias" after the long darkness and somber worship of Lent. The Jubilee Ringers will continue with another special before the congregation sings the traditional hymns of Easter, joyous and triumphant. We'll read and proclaim the Easter Gospel and the Choir will perform their special music. Our homily is called, "The Uncomfortable Truth of Easter", and we'll ask some tough questions about what we really believe about this day. We'll end with a remembrance of our baptism and the sharing of Holy Communion. As United Methodists we believe in the open table — everyone is welcome to eat and drink with us. We do not serve wine, but we call it that. Out of respect for those in recovery we use grape juice. We take Communion by the old military way called "intinction", simply dip the bread in the cup to receive the sacrament. We will sing the "Doxology", "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" after the elements are blessed, and we'll end with our traditional song, "Spirit Song", whose words are our prayer for all of you as you leave the sanctuary and go forth into the world to be the church. Easter is not just a day, but an entire season, 50 days of celebrating that is called "Eastertide". During this time we will be embarking on a sermon series based on the concept of truth, or in Greek, "Aletheia". Jesus promised us that the truth would set us free, but in today's cynical world I think we are too often like Pilate, "What is truth?" In a world where everyone thinks they are right and everyone else is wrong, we'll ask what is the truth Jesus taught, and how can it make us free from lies, falsehoods, deceptions, and mistruths. At the end of these 50 days we get to Pentecost — 'pente', meaning 50, the coming of the Holy Spirit. After that I will be taking a Summer sabbatical to renew. Janet Arnett, our appointed Lay Minister, will be filling the pulpit, and I hope you will support her. She's worked hard to reach this status, and we are thankful for her.



"If you continue in my word,
you are truly my disciples,
and you will know the truth,
and the truth will make you free."
— John 8:31-32

avoiding lies, deceptions, & mistruths

The Truth Shall Set You Free
an Eastertide Sermon Series

The Gathering: Order of Worship

Janet Arnett, Lay Minister: Jubilee Ringers conducted by Beverly Beard: Patricia Taylor, Pianist: Jess Wade, Chancel Choir

Join us in-person or via our Livestream that is broadcast thru our Facebook Page, our website <lovespokenhere.org>, or our YouTube Channel!

9:55 ~ Announcements

Sunday, 5th of April, 2026

Ushers: Dennis & Shirley Lykins **Communion Stewards:** Sandy Dunn, Kevin Graham, Jean Reed, Jess Wade **Offering Counters:** Janet Arnett, Martie Davis

We Gather to Worship

Welcome

Jubilee Ringers	"Handbell Processional"	by John A. Behnke
Rising of the Light, Lighting the Paschal Candle	"Alleluia"	page 2078 Faith We Sing
An Affirmation of Faith	"the Nicene Creed"	page 880 UMC Hymnal
Song Response	"Glory Be to the Father"	page 70 UMC Hymnal
Jubilee Ringers	"Risen in Glory"	by Lloyd Larsen
Easter Prayer & Lord's Prayer		Janet Arnett, Lay Minister

Songs of the People

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" page 302 UMC Hymnal
"The Day of Resurrection" page 303 UMC Hymnal

We Listen for God's Word

A reading from John's Gospel, 20:11-18
Janet Arnett, Lay Minister
"Alleluia", a Choral Response

"Great Day! The Lord is Risen!"

By Joseph M. Martin
The Chancel Choir

A Video Reflection — "A Very Special Easter"

"The Uncomfortable Truth of Easter"

Rev Blake Lasater

We Give & Receive Love

Remembrance of our Baptism

Holy Communion

Song Response for the Gift of Communion "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" page 95 UMC Hymnal

(We believe in the Open Table, all are welcome at God's table. We take Communion by 'Intinction', simply break off a piece of the bread and dip it in the cup, or you may wish to use our gluten free station on the altar.)

Sending Song

"Spirit Song" Page 288 UMC Hymnal

Benediction

(The words of Blessing that send us forth into the world to be the hands and feet of Christ to a broken world)

**please stand if you are able*



Caregivers Support Group

Caregivers Support Group meets each month on the **second Tuesday at 1:00 pm** in the church library. Join other Caregivers to gain information, share ideas, problem solve, and support each other. Facilitated by Brandi Schneider, LMSW.

Widow(er)s Support Group

Our support group for Widow(er)s meets at the church library at **Noon** on the **first and third Wednesdays** of each month. If you grieve, you don't have to grieve alone. This is such a loving, encouraging, and supportive group of people. You will feel welcome and cared for. There are occasional luncheon outings, particularly on the 5th Wednesdays of months.

Parkinson's Disease Support Group

A support group for people with Parkinson's and their Caregivers meets the **first Wednesday** of each month in the church library at **10 am**. This is open to anyone in the community.

Bible Study Wednesdays

Pastor-led bible studies are on **Wednesday evenings at 6 PM**. We are doing a deep dive into the book of Revelation, learning what it is and isn't, and hopefully rescuing it from the kooks who have turned it into their own personal book of prophecy.

Shower & Laundry Ministry

Our church showers are open to men and women so they can freshen up, do a load of laundry, and be ready for a job interview, medical appointment, or just a chance to be clean. Showers are available **Monday and Wednesdays, 9 AM till 1:00 PM**. Volunteers are needed, flexible scheduling.

Save the Dates!

CS Parking Lot Fundraiser downtown ES, Saturday, May 16. (aka easiest fundraiser ever!) In a couple weeks we will be passing around volunteer sign up sheets. Please consider taking a shift and spreading God's love and joy.

Mobile Food Pantry church parking lot the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month**. Cars start lining up at 7:45 AM and we distribute until the food runs out, typically within 45 minutes. If you are homebound and do not have a friend or neighbor who can pick up for you, contact Butch [by Noon Monday](mailto:butch@esumc.org) at 417.393.6113 to be added to our very limited delivery schedule.

Important Happenings in the Life of ESUMC

Every morning is Easter morning from now on! Every day's Resurrection Day the past is over and gone! (Marsh & Avery, "Every Morning is Easter Morning") United Women in Faith rejoice in the promise that our Risen Savior brings, and we rise to the challenge that all followers are given! EVERY day is resurrection day! **United Women in Faith believe that love in action can change the world**

April 19, 5 PM Creation Care Outdoor Service

May 17, Meet in Church Library after Sunday Service

Get Involved!

Make New Friends

Jubilee Ringers Practice, Wednesdays 4:30-6 PM, Sanctuary

Ozarks Chorale Rehearsals Tuesdays, from 6-8 PM, Fellowship Hall

Make a Difference

Eureka! Quilters meet in Fellowship Hall the **2nd Wednesday of each month** for conversation, information and lunch. Open to all skill levels

Serve Others

Yoga 9-10 am Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall, \$8. All are welcome

Scouts Tuesday-Wednesdays, Youth Room, 6 pm

Transportation Ministry

Drivers Needed

We have a Transportation Ministry through the generosity of a donor who gifted the church with a Nissan Murano for the designated purpose of providing transportation to the least, the lost, and the last so they can get to various medical, dental, eye appointments. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact us 479.253.8987 or EsumcInfo@gmail.com

When we get a request an email goes out to the volunteer driver team with dates, times, location and client name. If you are available to take that appointment, you respond to the email accordingly and I make the arrangements. You will be so blessed serving in this role, and meeting some of these amazing people. We could really use a few more volunteers for this ministry. Thank you.

Church Columbarium

We are excited to announce that the church is going to install a Columbarium in the Prayer Garden. Each niche will accommodate two urns at \$1,200. There are 48 niches. Columbarium Contracts are located in the literature rack near the narthex desk. You can pick up a contract at the church office, call for more details, or visit our website to download a contract form. www.lovespokenhere.org

Help Wanted: Administrative Assistant

We are looking for a part time Administrative Assistant for the church. Office hours are from 9 till 2, Monday thru Thursday. The AA is the voice of our church, offering a friendly greeting to callers and guests. Bulletin prep. Various admin duties. \$15 per hour plus vacation.

Prayer Tree Ministry

Prayer Tree Link: We are implementing a confidential Prayer Tree Ministry to our tool box of ways we can support others. If you are interested, please follow this link below to sign up. Part of the sign up process is a short assessment which will identify you spiritual gifts as referred to in 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11, Romans 12:6. <https://forms.gle/FUtbq9QuPNvJj1g7A>

Eureka! Quilters

For a couple years now, we host the monthly meetings of the Eureka! Quilters. What a wonderful talented group of men and women! Last month (as is their custom) they presented us with a dozen+ beautiful handmade quilts that we can hand out to our homeless clients in need. What pure joy to behold on their faces when they see the tag "This Quilt was lovingly made for you." We are so grateful for this group partnering with our homeless ministries. A recent quilt donation went to a 9-year-old boy living in a trailer (no water for the last 5+ weeks) who is afraid of the dark. He was also gifted with a head lamp. Thank you for your kindness and sharing of your talents!



United
Women
in Faith

I am your mother: Do not neglect me! Children, protect me – I need your trust! (Earth Prayer – FWS #2059)

United Women in Faith **invite you to a special service** celebrating our Creator God and the our beautiful Earth. The early evening service will be held in our **Outdoor Chapel on Sunday, April 19th.**

United Women in Faith believe that love in action can change the world.

Church Financials

	<u>FEBRUARY 2026</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving:	\$ 18,648	\$ 47,074
Expenses:	\$ 15,771	\$ 39,715

April

2026

March							May							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7						1	2
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	29	30	31					24	25	26	27	28	29	30
								31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Palm Sunday: Chancel Choir's Passion Cantata	AI-Anon 10 AM	Yoga 9-10 FHall AI-Anon Noon Ozarks Chorale 6 PM Fhall	Parkinsons Support Group 10 AM Library Widow(er)s Group Noon Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM Maundy Thursday 6 PM	Good Friday 6 PM	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Easter Sunrise 6:30 AM Easter Celebration 10 AM	AI-Anon 10 AM	Yoga 9-10 FHall AI-Anon Noon Ozarks Chorale 6 PM Fhall	Mobile Pantry 8 AM Eureka Quilters 11-1:30 Fhall Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
The Truth Shall Set You Free: Our Post-Truth Culture	AI-Anon 10 AM	Yoga 9-10 FHall AI-Anon Noon Ozarks Chorale 6 PM Fhall	Widow(er)s Support Noon Library Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
The Truth Shall Set You Free: Most Propagandized People on Earth UWF Creation Care Outdoor Service 5 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM Leadership Team Meets 4:30 PM	Yoga 9-10 FHall AI-Anon Noon Ozarks Chorale 6 PM Fhall	Mobile Pantry 8 AM Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM		
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
The Truth Shall Set You Free: Picking Cherries	AI-Anon 10 AM	Yoga 9-10 FHall AI-Anon Noon	Jubilee Ringers 4:30 Bible Study 6 PM	AI-Anon 10 AM		

