

You are invited...

*8 AM Potluck Breakfast
In the Fellowship Hall at St. John's*

*10 AM Festival Service with
Communion*



ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ON MADELINE ISLAND, LA POINTE, WISCONSIN
March 31, 2024
Easter Sunrise Service

WELCOME

INVOCATION (from "The Opening of Eyes" by David Whyte)

Pastor: That day I saw beneath dark clouds
the passing light over the water
and I heard the voice of the world speak out,
I knew then, as I had before
life is no passing memory of what has been
nor the remaining pages in a great book
waiting to be read.

All: It is the opening of eyes long closed.
It is the vision of far off things
seen for the silence they hold.

Pastor: It is the heart after years
of secret conversing
speaking out loud in the clear air.
It is Moses in the desert
fallen to his knees before the lit bush.

All: It is the man throwing away his shoes
as if to enter heaven
and finding himself astonished,
opened at last,
fallen in love with solid ground.

BLESSING THE NEW FIRE

Pastor: Hear the word of God: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God. And the Word was God. In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all humanity. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Let us pray:

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ, you have given the light of life to all the world. Sanctify this new fire and inflame us with a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light, through Jesus Christ, the Son of righteousness.

People: Amen, Alleluia!

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, illumine our hearts and minds.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Christ our Light.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Christ is Risen.

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.

SONG "Morning Has Broken" vs. 1&2

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 24. 1-12

MEDITATION FOR EASTER DAWN

Pastor Nathan Holst

LITANY FOR EASTER MORNING

Pastor: The news is too good to keep! Go into all the world to make the miracle known.

People: The dawn of this morning beckons us to live.

Pastor: The news is too good to keep! Raise your voices in the streets everywhere to proclaim the miracle of Christ.

People: The dawn of this morning breaks our silence.

Pastor: The news is too good to keep! Let all your lives be lived for the Holy One.

People: The dawn of this morning bathes us in the new light of Christ.

Pastor: Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

SONG "Morning Has Broken" vs. 3

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE