

May 4, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Give thanks to God, for He sees us,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for He hears us,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to God, for He desires to know us,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Hymn *Up from the Grave He Arose* UMH #322

Prayer for Illumination

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *The Book of Common Prayer*, UMH #705

Scripture *Genesis 16:1-16*

¹Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian slave whose name was Hagar, ²and Sarai said to Abram, "You see that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. ³So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave, and gave her to her husband Abram as a wife. ⁴He went in to Hagar, and she conceived, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. ⁵Then Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my slave to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" ⁶But Abram said to Sarai, "Your slave is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she ran away from her. ⁷The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. ⁸And he said, "Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai." ⁹The angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress,

and submit to her." ¹⁰The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude." ¹¹And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Now you have conceived and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael, for the Lord has given heed to your affliction. ¹²He shall be a wild ass of a man, with his hand against everyone, and everyone's hand against him, and he shall live at odds with all his kin." ¹³So she named the Lord who spoke to her, "You are El-roi," for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?" ¹⁴Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; ^[d] it lies between Kadesh and Bered. ¹⁵Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. ¹⁶Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

Gloria Patri

UMH #70

Children's Sermon

Sermon

"El Roi"

Colton Arends

A story of forced surrogacy, sexual exploitation, coercive abuse of power, bitterness, and hatred that is made whole by the God who sees us and loves us not despite our failures but because of them and because of the future versions of ourselves He is able to see.

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

UMH #881

Musical Offering

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Response *Alleluia, Alleluia (refrain)*

UMH #162

Prayers of the People

Hymn

Lift High the Cross

UMH #159

Benediction

Up from the Grave He Arose

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)

Glory Be to the Father

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. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! (refrain)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Lift High the Cross

(refrain)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1) Come, Christian, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God In unity combine. (refrain)

2) Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the
brow the seal of Him who died. (refrain)

3) O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast
promised, Draw the world to thee. (refrain)

4) So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the
Crucified for victory!