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EASTER — Week 1 (April 17th-23rd)

Tuesday – Painting of the Sanctuary Begins!

**Many thanks to all who helped clear our
worship space for this new coat of paint.**

**7:00 p.m. — Bible Study of the Lord’s Prayer
“Lead us, not into temptation”**

Sunday 10:15 a.m. –

Worship on the 2nd Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 20:19-31

“My Lord and my God!”

**Our Worship Service will be in the Social
Hall while scaffolding fills the sanctuary.**

***** The Counters will meet on Sunday after
church. All counters, and anyone who
would like to volunteer is welcomed to join
in this meeting.***



Please note: The Trustees will meet on Thursday, April 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Devotions for Easter: Week 1

O God, our light, our beauty, our rest:

**In the resurrection of Your Son, You have brought us into Your
new creation.**

Form us into Your people, and order our lives in You.



This traditional prayer of the first week of our seven week Easter Season causes us to say: wait, what? How is it that the Resurrection brings us into God's new creation? Shouldn't it be that God is bringing His new creation to us by letting us see His risen son? Jesus rises from the dead to bring new life to us, making us, in him, the new creation.

But the prayer suggests that what is really happening at the resurrection, and the process of bringing all of this meaning into our limited vision just goes on and on, is that the Risen Jesus is the first visible part of the new creation. God is beginning with him "to renew the face of the earth". He is like the new Noah, landing on the mountain to begin again to form a way of life where "they do not hurt or destroy in all of my holy mountain" (Isaiah 65:25).

And the invitation is to get "into this new creation". That would mean getting into Christ, letting him form us and asking that he order all things in our lives.

From the reports of the Gospel writers, the first step in doing this is to see him – or to believe the report of the reality of the Risen Jesus from those who have seen him. And then the next step is to identify ourselves as his followers and do everything he says and make every effort to also do everything he has ever done.

That second step is for the rest of our lives. And that is what it takes to get into the new creation which God has brought us in the resurrection of Jesus. And that is why in Matthew 28:20 Jesus tells his disciples (and us) “surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Sometimes it seems we just keep missing the mark of following him. But we take heart, when we enter into the new creation it lasts forever. Alleluia!

The Bell Chimes for the month of April are sponsored by Sandy MacKenzie in memory of Viola Brown.

The Steeple Lights for the month of April are sponsored by Richard and Carol Blood in honor of Sandy MacKenzie's birthday.

The Window Candles for the month of April are sponsored by Shirley Blyth in memory of Viola Brown on her birthday, from her loving family.



Laurie Williams of our congregation is offering us the opportunity to support this year's "Out of the Darkness Walk". It is a fundraiser for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. It will be held on Saturday, April 30th at 11:00 a.m. on the loop around the UMBC Campus.



Please look for the flyers for the Walk on the table in the Social Hall – or you may contact Laurie at 443-401-5042. She invites you to Walk – the whole loop or a couple of feet – or support her in her walk with your donations.



Tom & Jane Wilhelm, who are recuperating from Covid.

Ray Smith, who is still recovering from a fall.

Diane Bowman, having her second cataract surgery this Thursday.

Glova's friend, Bootsie who may need hip replacement surgery.

Gary's friend, Jim Condry who had surgery at Shock Trauma following a car accident.

Lee & Larry's cousin, Ginny Stallings who is recovering from surgery.

The Boor Family; the husband was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Jim Rimbach, who is participating in therapy management.

Doris Talbot, Phyllis' friend who awaits test results.

Sharon's friend, Carol, who is caring for her mom.

Greg Goucher and his daughter, Claire, for health issues.

Linda's friend, Jean, who is searching for home in Florida.

The unrest in Russia and Ukraine; the Ukrainian people.

All those undergoing chemotherapy, PT, etc.

Katie Ferguson (Sandy's cousin) who was diagnosed with cervical cancer.

Sharon Schaub (Dan's neighbor) who is hospitalized with cardiac issues.

Bob Stansbury has been moved to a nursing unit due to dementia.

Melanie Hedrich, Susan's sister-in-law, who is undergoing chemo.

John Iampieri, who continues in cancer treatments.

Dan's sister, Mary Lou McKoy, still receiving chemo treatments.

Martin Boyer, Dan's friend, who suffers from headaches.

Bettye Kershner, Dan's sister-in-law, still receiving chemo treatments.

Jim Smith, Laurie's brother-in-law, who continues cancer treatment.



Shelly Franklin is back to work.

He is Risen!

Happy Birthday to Gladys Henderson today!

Donna's friend Rob and his daughter have been released from the hospital.

Vivian Wess' dad, Mr. Sam was visiting.

Melinda is back with us.

Marilyn Gallagher has a ramp installed and is able to go outside now.

Glova's friend, Ida is doing better.