

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1610 Prince Street, Conway, Arkansas, 501-329-3801, www.conwayfumc.org

Easter Day

April 5, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE WELCOME

Prelude

Prelude in F Major, BuxWV 157 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

Introit

Above all praise Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)

*Above all praise and all majesty, and above all majesty.
Lord, thou reignest evermore, Hallelujah.*

The Opening Prayer

Everlasting God, because of your tender mercy toward all people, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all should follow the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn 302 Christ, the Lord, is risen today *Easter Hymn*

A Children's Moment *with J. J. Whitney*

*The * indicates all stand.*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Prayer for Illumination, *said by all, seated*

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

The Scripture Lesson *Acts of the Apostles 10:34–43*

Reader The word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

* **Hymn 322** Up from the grave he arose *Christ Arose*

* **The Gospel Lesson** *John 20: 1–18*

Pastor The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon *Surprised by Hope*

Concerns and Prayers, *all seated*

The Offering

Anthem Judge eternal Gerre Hancock (1934–2012)

Judge eternal, throned in splendor, Lord of Lords and King of king, with thy living fire of judgement purge this land of bitter things; solace all its wide dominion with the healing of thy wings. Still the weary folk are pining for the hour that brings release, and the city's crowded clangor cries aloud for sin to cease: and the homesteads and the woodlands plead in silence for their peace. Crown, O God thine own endeavor; cleave our darkness with thy sword: feed all those who do not know thee with the richness of thy word: cleanse the nation through the glory of the Lord. Cleanse the body of the nation through the glory of the Lord.

—H. S. Holland (1847–1918)

Text "Give" to 501-500-5335
or place cash or a check in the offering plate
or scan the QR code.



As the offering is presented, the following hymn is sung by all:

*** Hymn 304**

Regent Square

**Easter people, raise your voices,
sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter People, let us sing.**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*** THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

The Liturgy of the Table begins with the Invitation on page 7 of the hymnal, followed by musical setting A, p. 17, Elise Shoemaker Eslinger (b. 1942), arr. J. Saugey, 2024.

The Lord's Prayer, text at Hymn 270

Giving the Bread and the Cup

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, as we offer an open table. You do not have to be a member to receive. Communion will be served via intinction where you will be given a piece of bread and invited to dip it into the cup. After consuming, you may kneel at the altar or return to your seat to pray. Gluten-free and packaged Communion are available upon request.

The Lamb of God

Christe, du Lamm Gottes

Music at the Communion

Ave verum corpus

Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)

Ave verum corpus natum de Maria virgine, cuius latus fluxit aqua et sanguine.
Vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine. Esto nobis praegustatum mortis
in examine. O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie, O Fili Mariae, Iesu.

We greet you, true body born of Mary, the virgin. Your side flowed with water and blood, truly having suffered, sacrificed on the cross for human kind. Be for us a foretaste of death in trial. O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, Son of Mary.

O bone Iesu Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

O bone Iesu! Miserere nobis, quia tu creasti nos; tu redemisti nos sanguine tuo praetiosissimo.

O holy Jesus! Pardon our offenses, for that thou hast made us thine, and hast redeemed us by thy most precious blood.

The Prayer after Communion

THE SENDING FORTH

If you would like to join in the singing of the Handel Hallelujah, please move to the choir loft during the final verse of Hymn 312.

*** Hymn 312** Hail the day that sees him rise *Llanfair*

The Dismissal with Blessing

Officiant The peace of Christ be with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Response Hallelujah G. F. Handel (1685–1759)

Postlude Fanfare Jacque-Nicolas Lemmens (1823–1881)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen to-day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 6. King of glo - ry, soul of bliss, Al - le - lu - ia!

Earth and heaven in cho - rus say, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to thee by both be given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev - er - last - ing life is this, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee to know, thy power to prove, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - tory, boast - ing grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hail the Res - ur - rec - tion, thou, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thus to sing, and thus to love, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739
 MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 77.77 D

322 Up from the Grave He Arose

1. Low in the grave he lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior,
 2. Vain - ly they watch his bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior;
 3. Death can - not keep its prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior;

wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my Lord!
 vain - ly they seal the dead, Je - sus my Lord!
 he tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my Lord!

Refrain

Up from the grave he a - rose, (he a - rose) with a

might - y tri - umph o'er his foes; (o'er his foes) he a -

WORDS: Robert Lowry, 1874
 MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1874

CHRIST AROSE
 65.64 with Refrain

rose a vic - tor from the dark do - main, and he

lives for - ev - er, with his saints to reign. He a -

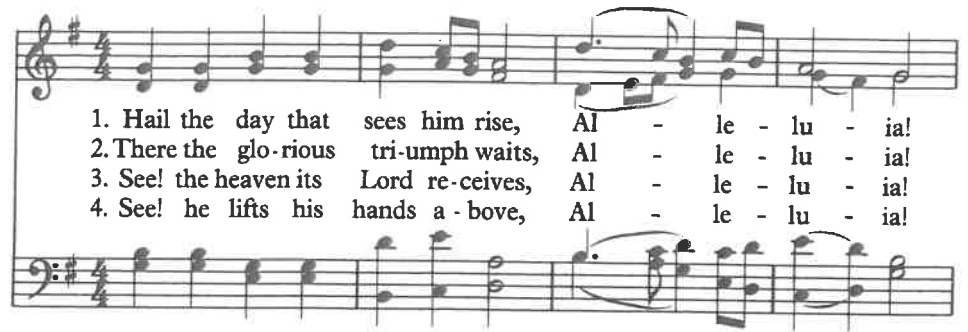
rose! He a - rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!
 (he a - rose) (he a - rose)

The Ascension

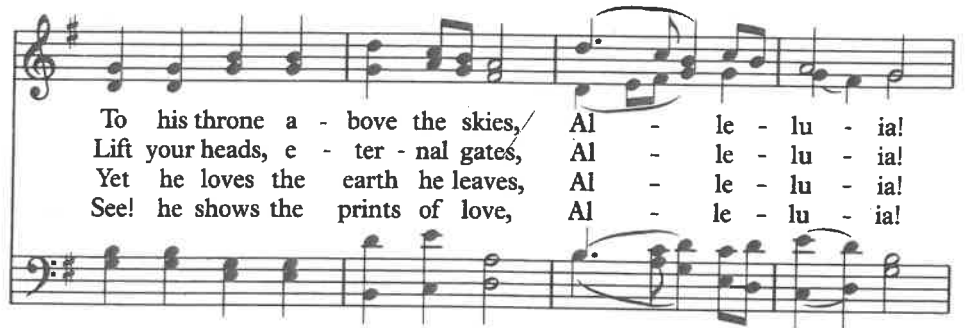
323

Everliving God,
 your eternal Christ once dwelt on earth,
 confined by time and space.
 Give us faith to discern in every time and place
 the presence among us
 of him who is head over all things and fills all,
 even Jesus Christ our ascended Lord. Amen.

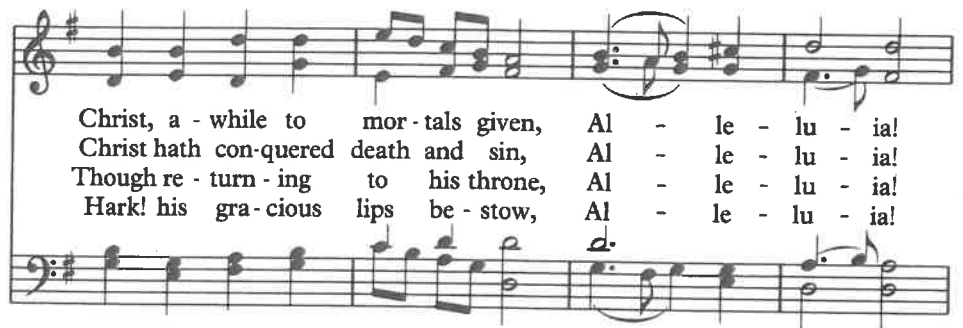
Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise 312



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. There the glo - rious tri - umph waits, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. See! the heaven its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. See! he lifts his hands a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



To his throne a - bove the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love, Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ hath con - quered death and sin, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!



Re - as - cends his na - tive heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Take the King of glo - ry in, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Still he calls the world his own, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Bless - ings on his church be - low, Al - le - lu - ia!

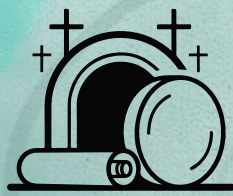
WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739

MUSIC: Robert Williams, 1817; harm. by David Evans, 1927

Harm. by permission of Oxford University Press

LLANFAIR
77.77 with Alleluias

Volunteer Signups



Easter Day

April 5, 2026

Hallelujah



Pizza With the Pastors on Sunday, April 12

Thinking about your next steps at Conway FUMC? Join the Pastors for a pizza lunch from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 12, in the Fellowship Hall to learn about the UMC, membership, and where you can use the gifts God has given you here!

Join us in learning about the United Methodist Church and specifically Conway FUMC!



Senior Sunday

April 26, 2026

Join us to honor our graduating high school seniors. All three worship services

MidYouth Preview Day

For all 4th Graders

April 29, 2026

Agape Feast

For all 7th Graders

May 3, 2026

Arkansas Travelers Baseball Game

5:30 p.m. Wednesday,

May 27, in Little Rock

Fifth Sunday Program

10 a.m. Sunday, May 31, Great Hall

Featuring the Affirming Ministries Team

Summer Music Camp

Monday, June 1, through Thursday, June 4

For grades 2 - 12

Summer Movie Nights

June 3: K-Pop Demon Hunters

June 10: Wicked for Good

June 17: Inside Out 2

June 24: Zootopia 2

Vacation Bible Camp

July 13 through 15

Visit the Cadron Settlement Blockhouse!



Join us on a tour of historic Cadron Settlement Park. Hear stories of Native Americans and settlers and even get a tour inside the historic log house!

Sun April 12, 2:30pm
6200 Hwy 319 W. in Conway

CONTACT JEREMY WALTER FOR MORE INFO 501-269-8675

CALL for VOLUNTEERS



Groups needed to purchase items & assemble Compassion Bags for our homeless neighbors

Each bag includes essentials like travel-sized toiletries & bottled water.

If you're able to lend a hand, we'd greatly appreciate your help in making a difference in our community. The work can be done as your schedule allows.

Want to Help? Contact Libby Conder at the church (lconder@conwayfumc.org) for a list of included items and set a time to assemble.



The Church office will be closed Monday, April 6, for the Easter holiday