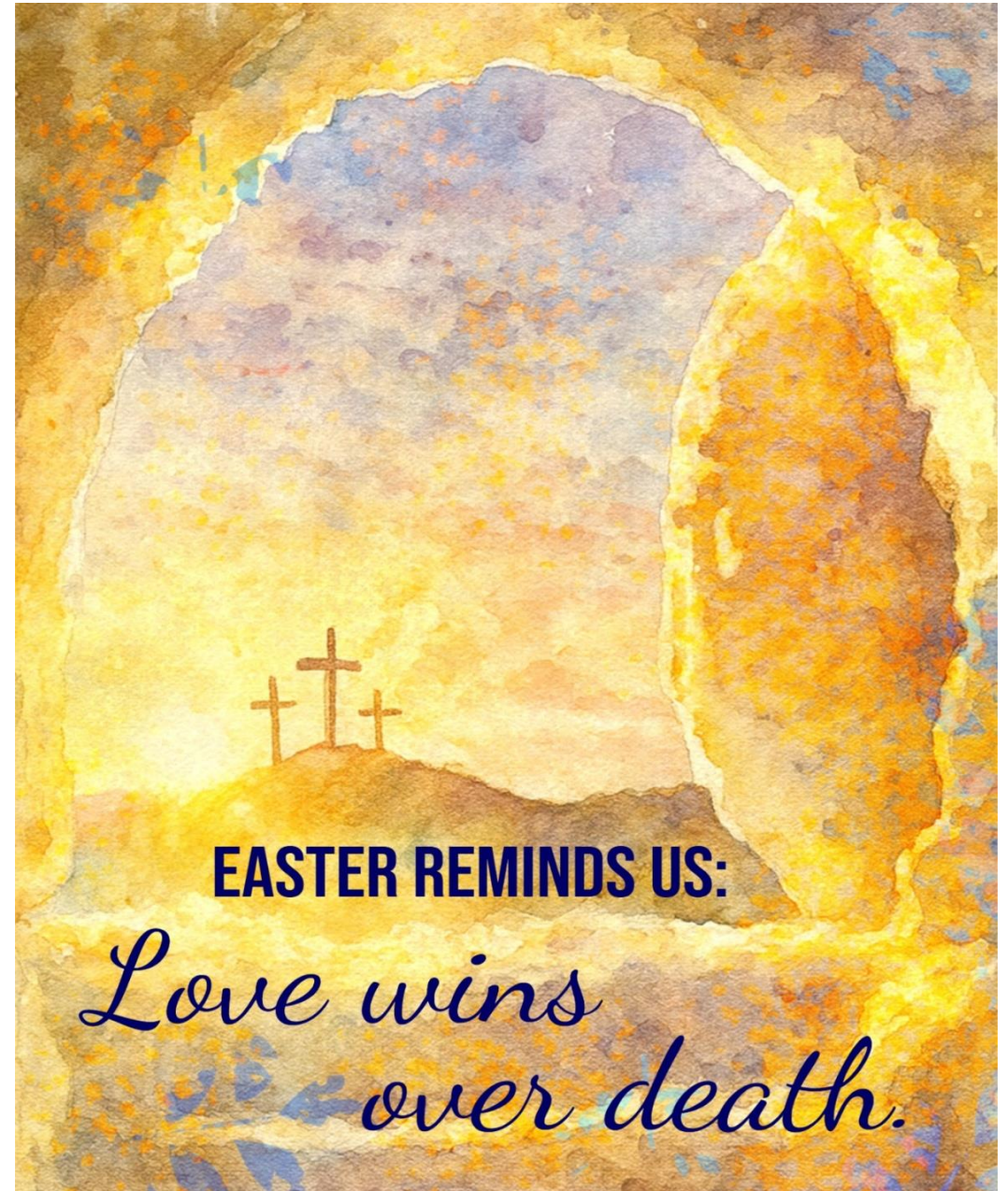




WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.



Celebration *of* Worship

April 5, 2026

Easter

Holding It Together: Death & Resurrection

Centering chimes

Prelude

*Call to worship

One: Listen. Do you hear it?

All: The sound of joy. Laughter breaking in.

One: Listen! It sounds like harmony.

All: Angels singing.

One: Why are you weeping? For the grief? For the beauty?

All: Jesus is risen!

One: Yes! And creation sings it. Yesterday's tears linger, as they must,

All: but love is stronger than death.

One: Do you believe this? Listen, Jesus is speaking your name.

All: Our names—each one.

One: Like music of the soul. Can you hear it?

All: It is the sound of resurrection.

One: Let us worship the Risen One!

*Hymn #333 "Low in the Grave He Lay"

Welcome and Prayer

Hymn #349 "Christ Is Risen"

Children's story and children's offering for Sola Gratia Farm

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

Scripture John 20:1-18

Sermon *Come and See*

*Response Hymn #461 "Come to the Table of Grace"

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. The bread is gluten-free. The juice is grape juice (water is also available). Come and partake as the Spirit leads.

Prayer & Offertory (Ushers will pass the offering plates down the rows)

Choir chimes *Christ is Alive/Let Christians Sing, arr. Cindy Breeze & Deb Sutter*

We will not have verbal sharing today. Text your sharing to Pastor Michael or write it on the index card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate during the offertory.

Congregational sharing and prayer (*text prayers to Pastor Michael*)

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church (*please come forward to the podium mic to make your announcement*)

*Sending Hymn #347 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

*Hallelujah Chorus *from "Messiah" by George F. Handel*

*Benediction

**Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the worship ribbons during the hymns.*

Note: Because worship is participatory and not a performance, instead of applauding please show appreciation for preludes, offertories and special music in other ways, such as ASL, silent applause, saying "Amen" or thanking musicians later.

We welcome, without exclusion, all who seek God's love and grace...

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities. We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.