



First United Methodist Church

Welcome! We're glad that you are here.

To all who need comfort; all who need friendship;
all who are lonely and need companionship;
all who want sheltering love, all who sin
and need a Savior; and whosoever will

—we open wide our doors and say, “Come; let us worship together.”

Easter Sunrise Service

April 5, 2026

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE
GREETINGS AND WELCOME**

Joe Pasch
Pastor Fernando

CALL TO WORSHIP

***Easter Proclamation**

Dear friends and beloved in Christ: On this most holy morning, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her faithful, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in praise and prayer, worship and celebration and by hearing God’s Word and celebrating his resurrection, we share in Christ’s victory over death.

Prayer of Confession

Pastor : Christ has risen, and we have risen to new life with him. Yet we must confess the ways we have continued to remain in our tombs of sin and death.

ALL: Living Lord, when we stand before the empty tomb, We don’t always feel the joy of resurrection. We feel fear, doubt, and distrust. We feel empty. Forgive the fear that paralyzes us at the brink of new life. Forgive our doubt of your love. Forgive our distrust of your surprising, joyous plan. Fill our emptiness with your glorious light. Raise us to abundant new life for the glory of your name.

Call and Response

Deeann Kramer

L: Behold the Light of Christ! Christ the Light of the world! Christ is risen. Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.

P: Glory to you, O Christ, and thanks to you, O God.

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

L: We know the message that God sends to all people.

P: God’s peace, preached by Jesus Christ, is available to all through the Lord of life.

L: The one who lived among us,

P: Doing good and healing all,

L: was crucified, died, and buried.

P: But God raised him on the third day.

L: This very day, God has acted.

P: Today, we will rejoice and be glad!

Hymn #304 “Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

1. 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.

2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below. For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe. Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

3. Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song. When in trouble move the faster o our God who rights the wrong. Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.

**GOSPEL Matthew 28:1-10 Deeann Kramer
The Resurrection of Jesus**

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him, the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.” This is my message for you.’ ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, ‘Greetings! And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee. There they will see me.

L: The Word of God for the People of God

P: Thanks be to God

HYMN #314 “In the Garden”

1. I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses, and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

[Refrain] And he walks with me, and he talks with me, And he tells me I am his own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing, and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]

3. I’d stay in the garden with him through the night around me be falling, but he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling. [Refrain]

Easter Devotion “ ” Pastor Fernando

**Holy Communion
Invitation & Confession
The Peace**

**The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord’s Prayer**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of us all,
We give you thanks for your love, your grace, and your power on this blessed Resurrection morning!

P: We thank you for the many friends and loved ones who have made the extra effort to gather here with us today.

We thank you for the brilliance of the colors on us and around us that remind us of new life!

P: Today, blessed God, we gather to remember and celebrate: We remember Jesus, who healed the sick and raised the dead.

P: We remember Jesus, who gathered children to himself and dealt kindly with women centuries before our efforts at women's liberation.

We remember Jesus, who always kept the mission in the forefront, and the minutia in the lowest seat.

P: We remember Jesus, Son of God, Song of God, who sang God's melody to us.

We remember Jesus, who consented to suffer and die at our hands.

P: Today, Almighty God, we celebrate the fact that death could not hold Jesus in the grave!

We celebrate that not even death is able to separate us from the love of God!

P: We celebrate the new life that we have in Christ!

We celebrate the assurance that we have of eternal life!

Today we celebrate and give thanks that in life, in death, in life after death we belong to God! **Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Offering Ourselves

***Doxology #95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Offertory Prayer**

God of New Beginnings, you roll away more than stones. You roll away despair and doubt, fear and failure.

On this Resurrection morning, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the new life we have found in Christ. Let these offers be signs of our commitment to live differently -- eyes open, hearts awakened, hands ready to serve. May what we give today helps the world that hope is alive, love has triumphed, and joy cannot be contained. Use us and what we offer to keep telling the story: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.

***Hymn #310 "He Lives."**

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say. I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.

[Refrain] He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair. I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last. [Refrain]

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind. [Refrain]

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

***GOING FORTH TO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

As we enter the silence of the tomb, let us pray together.

**Easter Breakfast will follow in the fellowship hall!
Freewill offering will be taken.**



First United Methodist Church Easter Sunrise Service April 5, 2026 @ 7:00 am

Vision Statement

“Reaching out to all people and inviting them to experience the Love of God through Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open doors.”

2100 Chicago Ave, Savanna, Illinois 61074

Office phone: 815-273-2345

Email: office@firstumcsavanna.org

Web: www.firstumcsavanna.org

Pastor Fernando email: pastorfernando4@outlook.com

Office/Ronda email: office@firstumcsavanna.org

www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc

ccli#2014483& #21007722

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