HE IS RISEN!
EASTER SUNDAY CHILDREN’S SERVICE

April 21, 2019 1:00 p.m.

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ
Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF WELCOME Pastor Laurie

THE PROCESSION OF THE ALLELUIA

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Youth Bell Choir; Seth Patterson, Director

The alleluia this morning is presented by four-year-old Patricia Luna who was crowned Keeper of the Alleluia at our Mardi Gras Celebration the Sunday before Lent.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) Pastor Aaron and Terry

Pastor Aaron: On the very first Easter morning, the women went to the tomb and found the stone was rolled away.
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

Terry: The two messengers from God told them, “Don’t be afraid”!
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

Pastor Aaron: Jesus is not here – he has been raised!
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

Terry: What a big surprise!
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

Pastor Aaron: Go and tell the others; He has been raised!
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

Terry: Christ is risen!
Children: Alleluia! (Clap, Clap, Clap)

OPENING HYMN Pastor Aaron and Terry

This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day, that our God has made, that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day, that our God has made.
This is the day, this is the day, Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day Jesus rose again, we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day, Jesus rose again.

*OPENING PRAYER*

O God, we are glad to be here at church today. We are ready to hear the story again of how Jesus died, but you gave him new life. It is a story that starts off so sad, but you have given it a surprise ending! Your love changed everything. Because of your love for Jesus and each of us, we are thankful and full of Easter JOY! Hear us as we sing the prayer Jesus taught us…

*THE LORD’S PRAYER* (Sung)

  Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
  Thy kingdom come. Thou will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
  Give us this day our daily bread.
  And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
  And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
  For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIFT OF MUSIC  

*I Am a Promise*  

Children’s Choir

PRAYERS OF THE CHILDREN

*Written by our Second and Third Grade Sunday School*

ALL: God, thank You for this Easter day! Thank You for the birds and the animals, the flowers and the palm trees, the oceans and the fish, and the sun that rises and sets over them each day. Thank You for creating everything we see! Thank You for the life we live, and for making each person different. Thank You for our families, our friends and pastors at church, our teachers and friends at school and all of our neighbors.

Please feed the hungry people, make sure everyone has a safe bed to sleep in tonight, help grownups not to litter, stop kids from bullying other kids and bless all our pets. Thank You for Jesus, who loves us so much and teaches us how to live the way You want us to live, by loving everyone. What an amazing God You are! In Jesus’ name, we pray, Amen.
A HAPPY SURPRISE

Pastor Megan


Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and her girlfriends got up while it was still **BLACK** as night outside to walk to the garden where Jesus was buried in a tomb. It was so quiet, hardly a bird was singing yet. They all felt sad because their friend, Jesus had died.

They walked down the dusty **BROWN** path, telling each other stories about Jesus. They remembered the times they followed him around the countryside and by the seashore. They remembered the time he sat on a **GREEN, GREEN** hillside and taught the people. They remembered the time there was not enough food to eat, only five loaves and two fishes, but when Jesus blessed the food, there was enough for everyone.

Soon they reached the garden where Jesus’ body had been put in a tomb with a big **GREY** stone to cover the entrance. When they arrived they were surprised when they found the **GREY** stone had been rolled away from the tomb. They walked into the tomb carefully and were surprised they did not find the body of Jesus there.

While they were trying to figure out what had happened, suddenly two men in dazzling **WHITE** clothes stood beside them. The women were surprised by the men and frightened too. But the men in the dazzling clothes said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here, Jesus has risen! Remember how he told you, while you were all still together, that he would be killed but on the third day he would rise again.”

Then, they remembered what Jesus had told them, and they left the tomb to tell all of Jesus’ friends and disciples what they had seen. As they left the garden, the **YELLOW** sun was shining brightly in the clear **BLUE** sky, and they noticed beautiful flowers, **PINK** and **PURPLE** and **RED**!

And all these years later we remember that first Easter morning full of surprises and how Mary Magdalene with her girlfriends went to the tomb, and found it empty. To celebrate on Easter Sunday, we cover our Easter cross outside the front door of the church with beautiful flowers of all colors, **RED, GREY, PURPLE, BLACK, PINK, BLUE, YELLOW, BROWN, WHITE, GREEN**. We give thanks for Jesus, who rose that day.

We give thanks to God, and we say “Alleluia!”

GIFT OF MUSIC

*Praise the Lord*

Children’s Choir
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE SHARING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Music  A la la la la la la le lu jah  Led by Ms. Alex

Chorus:
A la la la la la le lu jah
A la la la la la le lu jah
A la la la la la le lu jah
A la la la la la la
Le lu jah

Shake a friend’s hand
Shake a hand next to ya
Shake a friend’s hand
And sing along

Shake a friend’s hand
Shake a hand next to ya
Shake a friend’s hand
And sing, sing this song! (Chorus)

Pat, pat a back
Pat a back next to ya
Pat, pat a back
And sing along

Pat, pat a back
Pat a back next to ya
Pat, pat a back
And sing, sing this song! (Chorus)

Jesus is a friend
He’s the friend next to ya
Jesus is a friend
So sing along

Jesus is a friend,
He’s the friend next to ya
Jesus is a friend
So sing, sing this song! (Chorus)
*PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND THE SINGING OF THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALL: We offer these gifts, O God, that they might be used to help others.
     Bless our offerings and all the people that are helped by them. Amen

*COMMISIONING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The men at the tomb told the women to go and tell the good news, to share
        joy, hope, and peace with those who were sad. We, too, are called to the
        same task. Let us begin by offering one another the peace of the risen
        Christ. Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen, indeed!

(Greet others with words of hope and joy.)

*CLOSING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Al---le-lu-ia!
All on earth with angels say: Al---le-lu-ia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Al---le-lu-ia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Al---le-lu-ia!

Jesus lives, eternal spring, Al---le-lu-ia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al---le-lu-ia!
Dying once, now all doth save, Al---le-lu-ia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Al---le-lu-ia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Al---le-lu-ia!
Suffering ended, freedom won, Al---le-lu-ia!
Death has yielded up its prize, Al---le-lu-ia!
Christ has opened Paradise, Al---le-lu-ia!

*BENEDICTION

Terry: What a surprising day!
Pastor Aaron: Yes! Christ is risen!
Pastor Megan: Go and shout with joy to all the world!
Pastor Laurie: Christ lives!
ALL: ALLELUIA and AMEN!
Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS!
If you are visiting us today, we welcome you. We are grateful we have found each other. Our vision is to be an inclusive, vibrant, alive, witnessing community of faith, and we would love to share the journey with you. For more information about the church, please contact Pastor Laurie at LaurieH@gablesucc.org or 305.448.7421 ext. 116.

Invite your family and friends around the world to worship with us online today and each Sunday at gablesucc.org/live.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Youth Bell Choir
Seth Patterson, director
Alexis Alcantra Jr.
Reese Atkins
Sloan Atkins
Amelia McKay
Matthew Patterson
Brady Smith
Connor Smith
Nicholas Sutton

Children’s Choir
Alex Woods, director
Andrea Cabrera-Elguezabal
Sofie De Las Casas
Juliana Fryhover
Valentina Ghia
Nathan He
Maya Langrish
Ashley Levin, director
Tessa Menon
Jackson Patterson
Matthew Patterson
Luciana Provenzali
Jasmine Zakharia

THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS:
Coleen, Sloan, and Reese Atkins, head ushers;
Sandy, Brad, Charlotte, and Clara Nojaim; Carrie Cleland;
Lindsey Bordenkircher and Amelia McKay
WORSHIP WITH US EACH WEEK
Each Sunday morning, three worship experiences are offered:

9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel
A more intimate and meditative worship experience in Moye Chapel. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. Following our service, enjoy conversation with others around the Coffee Bar.

10:00 a.m. Spanish-Language Worship
If you are part of a Spanish-speaking family or would enjoy worshipping in Spanish, come and join us in the Chapel for a service bridging the Latin experience with a progressive theology.

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
We gather in the beauty of our historic sanctuary to be engaged in meaningful worship, which feeds our spiritual hunger. Join us for beautiful music, challenging and inspiring messages, and liturgy that offers a renewal of mind and spirit.

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JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY MORNING
Childcare and Sunday School are offered in Room 3, during the 9:00 a.m. Service. Childcare is available in our Nursery (Room 1) for infants and toddlers at our 11:00 a.m. worship service. Sunday School is available for children and youth from ages three to eighteen during our 11:00 a.m. worship. For more information please contact Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org or 305.448.7421 ext. 119.

FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE
Find the perfect unique and special gift and help others make a just and fair living.
We support artisans in over 30 developing countries by purchasing their indigenous products made under safe working conditions. Located outside the Fellowship Hall. Sunday: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Wednesday – Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SUPPORT LOTUS HOUSE
Our Sunday School children and youth are supporting Lotus House Homeless Shelter in Overtown and we need your help! Each month they are collecting a different item that the women, children or LGBT youth need. In April, it’s full size bottles of shampoo and hair conditioner. Please place your items on the Lotus House Table in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!
HELP SERVE A MEAL TO THOSE IN NEED
Chapman Partnership Homeless Shelter
Sunday, May 12 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami 33136
Join members of Gables UCC in serving a meal for residents at the downtown location of Chapman. We will arrive at 4:00 p.m. and serve at 5:00 p.m., and then will help with clean up. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community and to build relationships with fellow Gables UCC members. To RSVP, please contact Elaine Cottle at elaine.cottle@yahoo.com.

WALKING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE
Each Monday in April from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Join Pastor Megan as we walk from Church to the Granada Golf Course and back (3.3 miles). You may also walk half of the golf course (approximately 2 miles) and return to church if you choose. We will walk, rain or shine.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Monday, April 22 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Library
We gather to create beautiful prayer shawls to share with members of our church family who are ill or grieving or maybe even celebrating a special event. You do not have to know how to knit or crochet – someone will teach you. If you are looking for a ministry of prayer and care for others, this may be it. Come and help wrap someone in God’s love by creating a beautiful prayer shawl.

CHURCH NIGHT IN
Come see old friends and meet new friends while gathering for a delicious dinner.
Each Wednesday Evening from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
$6 for adults / $4 for kids 12 and under
This week’s menu: Beef Chili with Cornbread, Chocolate Chip Cookies
Vegetarian: Vegetarian Chili with Cornbread, Cookies
Kids: Hot Dog with Bun, Corn on the Cob, Cookies

SISTERS ON SOJOURN
Saturday, April 27 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the Church Library
All women, regardless of age, are invited to join in this relaxed and easy-going group with no rules, no dues, no officers. Come and enjoy a potluck breakfast and lots of laughter! If you need childcare, please contact Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org.
Forgiveness is the most precious but challenging gift a person can give to another. We struggle with forgiveness because we are in pain, we are angry that someone caused that pain, we want them to hurt as much as we do, especially when we believe they don’t get it. Using empathy as a tool, is it possible to forgive and to move on? Come learn how, as we welcome back Dr. Michael McCullough, Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami. Dr. McCullough is an experimental psychologist who is concerned primarily with the evolutionary and cognitive underpinnings of human sociality. He was one of the first scientists to take an interest in interpersonal forgiveness and to develop tools for studying it experimentally. He is author of several books including, *Beyond Revenge: The Evolution of Forgiveness Instinct and The Psychology of Gratitude*.

**Future Empathy Bootcamp Sessions Include:**

- Sunday, May 19 – *The Zen of Empathy*
- Sunday, June 23 – *The Neuroscience of Empathy*
- Sunday, July 21 – *Cultural Empathy*
- August 25 – *Self Empathy*
- September 22 – *The Empathy of Emoji’s*
- October 20 – *The Bible and Empathy*
- November 17 – *Empathy Around the Holiday Table*

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**ANNOUNCING A NEW GRIEF GROUP IN SPANISH**

**Saturday, April 27, at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Library**

Led by Sophia Larraz, LCSW

Grief is a powerful emotion and can stop us in our tracks. It can also break our hearts enough to make us feel that we will never again be whole. Whether you are newly bereaved or still struggling with painful feelings that occurred years ago, join us in a safe place, led by a professional therapist to find mutual support and care.

**Reminder:** An English speaking grief support group meets on the first Saturday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the Library led by Pat Berman, M.S. Family Therapy.
CENTERING SUPPORT GROUP
Thursday, May 2 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room
Tuesday, May 21 from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel
Led by Elaine Cottle, MSW and Therapist
Stress and anxiety can cause physical, mental and spiritual problems. This group is formed to help members learn skills in reducing anxiety while increasing positive thinking, feeling and behaviors. Based on techniques of mindfulness, cognitive behavioral skills, meditation, relaxation, and guided imagery, members can experience increased physical, mental and spiritual health.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT
Dr. Greg Taylor, Artistic Director and Performing Artist
Friday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m. in Moye Chapel
Join us in the beautiful candlelight of Moye Chapel for an awe-inspiring evening of piano masterworks played by our talented Parish Musician, Dr. Greg Taylor. A freewill offering will be gratefully received.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS
Middle School Friday, May 3
High School Friday, May 10
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in The Garage
We gather for food, fellowship, and growing in our faith at our final youth group of the year.
Bring a friend!

YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER: TAIZE PEACE DINNER
Saturday, May 11, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Join us for an evening of food, music, fellowship, and reflection, as we invest in our high school youth group's summer trip to Taizé, France. We will serve a French-style meal, sing the music of Taizé, and hear from our youth about their hopes for this life-changing trip.

Founded as an international peace project during World War II, Taizé is a Christian monastic community that focuses on educating and inspiring youth for the work of peace and justice. This pilgrimage is an opportunity for our youth to grow in faith and service, and we look forward to bringing our lessons of faith back to Gables UCC!
SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Bible Study: A Post-Easter Panorama
Sundays, May 5 – 26 from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. in Havighorst Lounge
Refreshments and childcare always provided.
The resurrection experience did not end at Easter – it enlightened the minds of many and spread like wildfire throughout the Holy Land. During the month of May, we will read and discuss select lectionary passages such as Paul’s sudden encounter with the Christ; the second reappearance of Jesus to the disciples and his unveiling of the Holy Spirit; powerful visions of a new heaven and a new earth; and Jesus Christ’s final and most enduring commandment. Come explore this Post-Easter Panorama. Facilitated by Mark Wolfe.

JUST MERCY BOOK CLUB
Sundays, May 5, 12, 19, and 26
9:45 a.m. in the Church Library
Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn’t commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever. Join us for this inspiring class that will lay the groundwork for our conversations and work for criminal justice reform throughout the month of May. Books will be for sale in Fellowship Hall in the weeks prior to the class.

BECOME A MEMBER AND JOIN THE FUN!
(Yes! Living your faith can be fun!)
If you know that God’s love embraces all people, no matter who they are...
If you want religion with relevancy...
If you’ve wished for an open and embracing community of faith to nurture your spirit, grow your faith, and raise your children...
Then we warmly invite you to help us build the family of Gables UCC.
Our next Inquirer’s Gathering for anyone interested in “inquiring” about the church and membership will be Sunday, May 5, from 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Join us for a light lunch and the opportunity to learn more about the church, what we value, our history and the United Church of Christ. Who should attend an Inquirer’s Gathering? The short answer—you! If you love coming to the church and you are not a member, please come! Childcare is available. To RSVP e-mail Pastor Laurie at LaurieH@gablesucc.org or call at 305.448.7421 x 116.
BACK ON TRACK
The First and Third Tuesdays of the Month
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Havighorst Lounge
Back on Track is a faith-based, career-support organization offering spiritual, motivational, and practical techniques and best practices to individuals in various stages of career challenges and transitions. For more information, contact Suely at suely1133@gmail.com.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI/GABLES UCC THERAPY STUDY
Through a partnership with the University of Miami Graduate Psychology Department, we are pleased to offer two therapeutic opportunities on Thursday evenings.

General Group
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library
Have you been struggling with depression, anxiety, relationship difficulties, or other psychological stresses? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a free culturally informed, religiously-based group therapy as part of a research study aimed at improving treatment for these conditions. Pastor Laurie is serving as a consultant along with Dr. Amy Weisman, Ph.D., Associate Professor/Fellow, Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Department of Psychology at the University of Miami. During the treatment, clinicians will provide education on mental health, as well as techniques to assist in coping with psychological stress. All sessions are free. If you are interested, please call 305.284.5455 to set up your baseline interview.

SMI Group
6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. in the Church Library
Have you been diagnosed with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or another psychotic spectrum disorder? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a free culturally informed, religiously-based group therapy that is part of a research study aimed at improving treatment for these specific conditions. During the treatment, clinicians will provide education on psychotic spectrum disorders, as well as offer techniques to cope with mental illness. All therapy sessions are free. If you are interested, please call 305.284.5455 or email miamiCIT@gmail.com to set up an initial meeting and to join the group. Pastor Laurie and Dr. Amy Weisman, Ph.D. serve as consultants and advisors for this group.

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
The Early Childhood Center is our NAEYC accredited preschool serving children ages two years through Kindergarten. We still have a few spaces open for the August 2019-2020 school year for two and three year olds. Please call us for a tour at 305-444-9792 or email us at ecc@gablesucc.org. Check out our new website at gablespreschool.org.
CAN YOU HELP FOSTER A CHILD?

Each year in Florida, over 9,000 children are placed into foster care because they experience neglect or abuse in their own homes. And a large percentage of those youth identify as LGBTQ, adding to the difficulty of finding homes that will love them and accept them. Our church is in conversation with the National Youth Advocate Program, a private, non-profit foster care agency that serves youth and families in six different states, with an office here in South Florida. They are in need of foster parents to provide stable, loving homes for youth, especially those who identify as LGBTQ.

If you are interested in being a foster parent, or just want to learn more about the program, please contact Pastor Aaron at AaronL@gablesucc.org. We are working to set up an informational session sometime in May, and would like to gauge interest from our own congregation, as well as the community. For more information about the National Youth Advocate Program, visit www.nyap.org.

CAP JAZZ RADIO PERFORMANCE
Monday, April 22 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
WDNA 88.9 FM

Tomorrow evening, April 22, between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., be sure to tune into Serious Jazz Radio WDNA (88.9 FM) to hear the second of two one-hour live in-studio performances featuring our very own Community Arts Program (CAP) Miami Jazz Institute ALL-STAR Jazz Ensemble and CAP Jazz PREP Band.

COMING THIS SUMMER: THE ELEPHANT RETURNS

Has there ever been something you wanted to know about your faith, but were afraid to ask? Well, this is your chance to ask tough questions about the Bible, church, ethics, or life and get an honest and personal answer back from Pastor Laurie. Maybe it’s a topic or issue that we tend to sweep under the rug or ignore in order to keep the peace, avoid disagreement, or maybe even change… kind of like that proverbial elephant in the room or, in this case, in the pew.

Over the past twelve years, she has answered questions concerning Palestine and Israel, atonement, angels, the afterlife and even one in 2010 about whether LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Dwayne Wade were really the “New Kingdom” as the Miami Herald declared. (For the record, she said yes). Email, write, or call Pastor Laurie, or go to the Gables UCC Facebook page and leave your question. She just might preach on it! Then join us after worship for the Sermon Feedback Café. Have a cup of coffee at our coffee bar and some conversation with Pastor Laurie about her sermon for the day.
Vacation Bible Camp
JUNE 10-14
8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
AT CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
For children entering PreK-4 through entering 6th Grade in August 2019
$75.00 per Voyager (aka Camper)
2 or more siblings - $65.00 each
Online registration only!
gablesucc.org/vbc2019

Questions? Contact Pastor Megan at megans@gablesucc.org or 305.448.7421 x 119.
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 DURING 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP

This British rock band whose fusion of heavy metal, glam rock, and camp theatrics made it one of the most popular groups of the 1970’s, has recently had a resurgence for a whole new generation because of the film *Bohemian Rhapsody*, which tells the band’s amazing story wrapped around the lore and legend of their frontman Freddie Mercury.

The music will be performed by local professional musicians under the direction of Dorian Reyes of Red Rock Studios and Fangea The Band.

Join us for a Sunday featuring one of the great binary-busting bands of all time and for some of the strangest, most diverse, most entertaining, and most iconic music put out by anybody in the past 50 years.

We are grateful for the gift of this day underwritten by a member of the congregation.