



NEWTOWN United Methodist Church

April 12, 2026 – Second Sunday of Easter

Rooted in Faith. Growing in Christ. Serving with Love.

Prelude O Store Gud arr. Jerry Ray

Choral Introit "Jubilate Deo" Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn "He Lives" UMH #310
(Verses 1, 3, & 4)

*Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is risen, and His new life is among us.

People: He enters our locked places and speaks His peace.

Leader: In the places where we actually live, He calls us to living hope.

People: In joy and in trial, we trust the One who lives.

Leader: Come, then, not as those without hope, but as those being made new.

**People: We open our hearts to the risen Christ and rise to follow.
Amen.**

*Opening Hymn "Lift High the Cross" UMH #159

*Opening Prayer

Risen Christ, we gather in the light of Easter hope, grateful that Your victory over death is not only a promise for the future, but a power at work among us now. Enter the places within us that still feel closed, burdened,

or uncertain, and speak Your peace. Strengthen our faith, renew our hearts, and fill us with a living hope that holds steady in joy and in trial. Open us to Your presence in this hour, and lead us more fully into the new life You give. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Epistle Reading 1 Peter 1:3–9 Pew Bible pg. 232

Choral Anthem "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" William B. Roberts

*Gospel Reading John 20:19–31 Pew Bible pg.115

Message "What Now?" Pastor Rodney Brailsford

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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

*Hymn "Easter People, Raise Your Voices" UMH #304

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*Response Doxology, UMH #94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn

“Because He Lives”

UMH #364

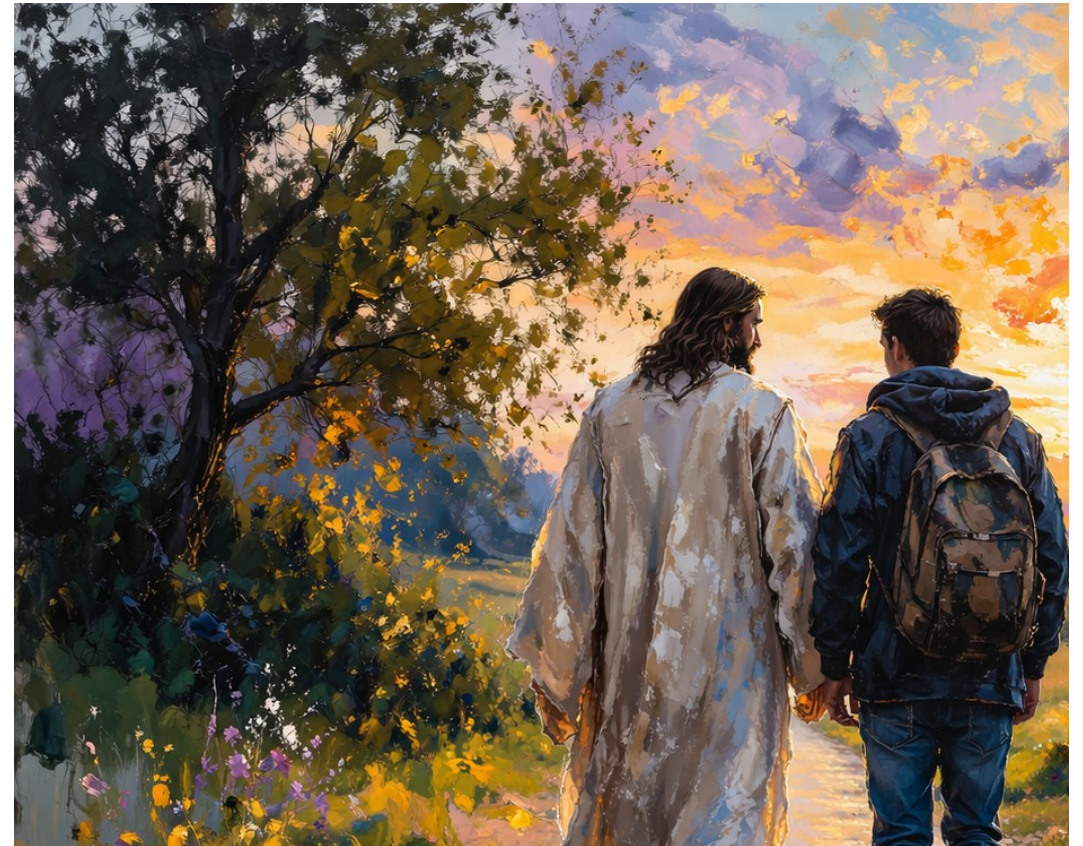
*Dismissal and Blessing

*Postlude:

Variations de Concert, Op. 1

Joseph Bonnet

*Please Stand if able



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Church Office: 215-968-2662
Website: www.newtownumc.com
E-mail: numc1@verizon.net

35 Liberty Street
Newtown, PA 18940

Rev. Rodney Brailsford, Pastor
Kathy Mershon, Administrative Assistant
Duomi Liu, Choral Director/Organist