

We are going to try something creative this year for our Easter Sunrise service to be televised at 7:00am April 9, 2023, on KATV. As you are aware, we have struggled getting volunteers for many of our ministry opportunities, including our Sunrise service. It has also become much more difficult to secure people from across the community to participate. And as you know, we are at the mercy of the weather, as was the case last year when we had to cancel the service all together. Since this event has not taken place in four years because of the pandemic and weather-related issues, we are attempting something that does not require lots of volunteers, a substantial budget, or being dependent on a morning without spring rainstorms.

However, the primary reason for trying something new is to involve other United Methodist Christians from across the state of Arkansas, not just local figures. This allows us to include smaller congregations, individuals, choirs, and additional participants who would very much like the privilege of being a part of something that unites us in the face of so much division.

The way this is going to work is as follows:

We will be recording all participants in our sunrise service from where their respective ministries take place. As a result, our media department will travel and record choirs singing in their local church setting. We are asking clergy and laypeople who participate to be filmed where they are in ministry. I will be preaching from a special location as well. The intent is to enable our congregation and television audience to see and hear United Methodist Christians from across Arkansas participating in worship in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This also allows us the opportunity to highlight congregations doing great work in the name of Christ who have never had the kind of exposure we can provide.

After each person/group is recorded, our great media team will put together a very moving and powerful worship experience for many to appreciate and enjoy. It will be a beautiful example of what happens when many voices proclaim, "He is Risen" together. I pray you will make every effort to watch at 7:00 Easter morning and then attend one of our five Easter services in person.

Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church has never shied away from trying new things to proclaim the name of Jesus Christ as far and wide as possible. This is another way to make that happen.

Thank you for encouraging us to be creative in how it is we share the Good News with the rest of the world. We are grateful as a staff to be in ministry for you and with you.

Dr. John Robbins, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jay Clark, Executive Pastor

Rev. Kathleen McMurray, Pastor of Connecting Ministries and Worship

Dr. Jeff Hampton, Pastor of Caring Ministries

Rev. Abbey Maynard, Pastor of Community Ministries
Rev. Katy Chambers, Associate Pastor