

Dear Lillian Methodist Church family,

I have great expectations about the upcoming Easter Sunday service. The resurrection of Jesus is the most important event in all human history. Paul said, "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins." (I Corinthians 15:17)

In recognition of that glorious event, Charles Wesley penned his "Hymn for Easter Day," better known as "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." I can't wait to join everyone singing that hymn on Easter Sunday, accompanied by Blake and the new sanctuary piano.

Spirited singing has always been a hallmark of Methodism. So much so, that John Wesley wrote in 1761's "Select Hymns,":

"Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan."

"Above all, sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself, or any other creature."

Easter Sunday will be glorious. Make sure you are there to lift your voice with us as we sing:

"Christ the Lord is risen today, Earth and Heaven in chorus say, raise your joys and triumphs high, sing ye Heavens and Earth reply. Love's redeeming work is done, fought the fight, the battle won, death in vain forbids Him rise, Christ has opened Paradise. Lives again our glorious King, where, O death, is now thy sting? Once He died our souls to save, where's thy victory, boasting grave?"

He is risen. He is risen, indeed.

See y'all Sunday,

Perry Cunningham

Lay Leader

He is risen. He is risen.