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Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

**The people of the
United Methodist Church**

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance (Psalm 16:6)

A message from Pastor Hae Seon Lee:

Happy Easter!

We are now transitioning from the season of Lent to the season of Easter. Many people think Easter is a single day, however, Easter in fact is a season that runs from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. Also, every Sunday is also Easter, as traditionally, every Sunday was a celebration of Christ's resurrection and our salvation because of it. Early church fathers called Sundays that were not Easter Sunday as "Little Easter".

Easter is a season of growth. As we witness plants that grow out of the melted snow, we too need to grow. We grow by becoming more like Christ, in other words, continue our walk in our process of sanctification, through God's sanctifying grace. We do this through continual participation in the means of grace and ordinance of God.

We should not stop at our personal sanctification, but also sanctification of the community we belong to. First, sanctification of our family, then our church, and then our local community. Naturally, the question is, what does sanctification of the community look like. Jesus gives us a simple answer: the Kingdom of God. Paul tells us Kingdom of God is not about eating and drinking, but rather righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit, in his letter to the Church in Rome. When we pray together every Sunday, we pray for the Kingdom of God, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done here on earth as it is in heaven". Thus, sanctification of our community is changing into a community where God's will is done, as it is in heaven.

As a part of our growth toward Christ to become more like Christ, I hope to begin Bible study opportunities in the upcoming weeks. As of when I am writing this letter, I am still planning the Bible study, but I hope I have a concrete plan out and ready by the time you read this letter.

I hope you get a chance to grow closer to God and become more like Christ, especially during this season.

Peace and Grace in Christ,

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Pastor Hae Seon Lee

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