



Sunday Worship
April 16, 2023
Draw near
to our Risen Lord

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able

italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

Break forth into joy! Sing together! God comforts those whose hearts are broken in sorrow.

We who once suffered in death, we who once cried in despair –

Now we know victory over death! Now we know joy over despair!

For God has raised Jesus from the grave!

The tomb is empty and death has been defeated for all the earth!

OPENING PRAYER

Stand among us once again, risen Christ, and bless us with your greeting: "Peace be with you." Stand among us once again, Exalted Brother, and breathe upon us your promised Spirit. Stand among us once again, you who have escaped death, and give us new birth into your living hope. Amen.

***HYMN #248** Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:

all creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning.

See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation

where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

We confess that we far too often want proof for everything, O Lord. We want proof that someone loves us; we want proof that we can trust in others; we want proof that everything in life is going to turn out all right. It is easy for us to point our finger at Thomas who was honest about his fears. He had seen so much healing and hope. But those hopes seemed dashed when Jesus died. Even the news of the Resurrection did not completely lift the darkness from his life. Jesus said to him, just as he says to us, "Peace, be still. Do not doubt but believe!" Lord, forgive our unbelief! Forgive the many times when we think and act in ways which are hurtful and mean. Heal our wounds. Bind up our spirits in the cords of your compassion. Help us to fully place our trust in you, with our whole hearts, and minds, and spirits, and souls. For we ask this in your blessed name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

...Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.

****GLORIA PATRI***

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Peter 1:3-9 *from* The Message

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

****HYMN #253*** Alleluia! Christ is Arisen

1. Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.
Run faithful women, to the graveside. Marvel, the stone is rolled away!
Hear from the angel, "He is risen." Christ goes before you all the way.
2. Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.
Rise, Magdalena, from your weeping; Christ stands before your very eyes.
Quickly return to the disciples; bear the good news: "He is alive."
3. Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.
Gather, disciples, in the evening: suddenly Christ your Lord appears.
"Look, it is I, your wounded Savior. Peace be with you, and do not fear."
4. Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.
Thomas, where were you on that evening? "I'll not believe unless I see."
Christ comes again, and every Lord's day: "Touch me and see; have faith in me."
Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31

SERMON Resurrection Joy

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERTORY

****DOXOLOGY***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, you have blessed us. We find it hard to name and explain your blessings so that they will make sense to others. Yet they are real. We are grateful . . . for friends, for faith, for freedom. Now, we offer these gifts in thankfulness and in joy. May what we bring be used for good in this your world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 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.

****HYMN #238*** Thine is the Glory

1. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.

Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. *Refrain*

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.

Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Refrain

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 16, 2023.

This week's carillon is in memory of Joseph A. Frye. Joseph lived local to the church and was an active member.

Wecome Back to the Organ: While Leanne Yerkes is home recovering from COVID, we welcome Maggie Realley to the organ. Maggie served this congregation as Director of Music from 2011 – 2014. We appreciate her music leadership. She is also one of our wonderful Deacons!

Youth Group: Tonight 6:30 – 8:00pm, Spring Scavenger Hunt.

Pastor Su will be on Study Leave April 17-23: Next Sunday, April 23, former seminary intern and now retired pastor, Debbie Heffernan, will be filling the pulpit and will be available for pastoral emergencies (267)342-0089. Debbie served as our intern in 2011-2012 and after ordination was the Interim Associate Pastor at Morrisville Presbyterian Church, Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Levittown and Glading Memorial Presbyterian Church. It will be a blessing to have her with us once again!

Forest Grove Clean-Up Day, Saturday, April 22 9 AM – 12 PM: There are lots of things that need to be done to help keep our building and property in good shape – and there is something for all skill levels. We will provide a list of projects that we are looking to have done. Find a project that suits you and bring your Swiffer, sponges, bucket, rake to our clean-up day.

On Sunday, April 30, The Welcome Church: Our youth and any others who wish to join in, will travel to Philadelphia to worship with this congregation. The youth will be providing refreshments for Coffee Hour which takes place before the service begins. **It will be necessary to leave Forest Grove at 1:45.** Worship is held outside, rain or shine, and lasts about thirty minutes. There will be a sign up in Fellowship Hall for all who wish to attend. We will form carpools.

Mother's Day Tea: At noon on **Wednesday May 10th**, we will gather for a special lunch. This will be including guest's celebration of our mothers but the lunch is open for everyone. We ask that you bring a photo of your mom or someone who was very special and mother-like to you and we will try to guess who belongs to whom. After the lunch, Vini Christie will give a flower arrangement demonstration. A free-will offering will be taken to offset the costs. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

Samuel Holton's Eagle Project: Sam's project is to complete the church playground by building a fence to enclose that space as well as to provide new plantings. If you would like to donate to his project, please send your donation to Forest Grove Presbyterian Church and write *Samuel's Eagle Project* in the memo line of your check.

Food Pantry Needs: This week we are asking for the following items: **Soy Sauce, canned Chow Mein or Noodles.** Bring your item(s) to the church. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

Vacation Bible School: Save the date – June 26-30, 9:00 am – Noon at The Anchor Presbyterian Church.
Please contact Pastor Su if you can help. **Register here:** <https://vbspro.events/p/events/62355b>

Calendar:	April 16	10:00 am	Worship Service and Sunday School - followed by Coffee Hour
		6:30pm	Youth Group
	April 17	5:30pm	Bell Choir
		7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
	April 18	5:00pm	Stewardship
		6:00 pm	Beekeepers
		7:00pm	Property meeting
	April 19	12:00 pm	Bring your Brown bag lunch for fellowship
	April 20	6:00 pm	Beekeepers
	April 22	9:00am	Clean-up day

Elder of the month: Amy Raab **Deacon of the month:** Maggie Realley
Sunday School Teacher: Ruth Squillace **Coffee Host:** Emilie Cullerton

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Ray and Joan Curran, Alvin Cornell, Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Bill Yerkes, Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza

Church Staff

Susan Fall, Pastor

Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music

Sue Lewis, Handbell Director

Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator

Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager

