



Sunday Worship
April 7, 2024
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***

What great joy we have!

Our Lord is risen!

Believe with your whole heart in the miracle of resurrection.

We open our hearts to the good news of God's faithfulness to us.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

****OPENING PRAYER***

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. 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

Patient Lord, you wait for us to understand. You wait for us to remove the blinders of prejudice, fear, unbelief, confusion. You have offered to us the greatest miracle of all time, the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ. We sang and celebrated last Sunday, but a week has passed and we have slid back into our old ways of perceiving your presence and love. Shake us up, Lord! Shake us up and cause us to look with new eyes on our Savior, who came that we might have life, abundantly serving all who are in need. Forgive our stubbornness and our complacency. Reach out to us so that we may reach out with healing love to others, for we pray this in Jesus' 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 Acts 2:14a, 22-32

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.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:19-29

SERMON Where's the Alleluia?

STATEMENT OF FAITH The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS (*please hold the bread and then the cup so that we all commune together showing our unity in Christ*)

UNISON PRAYER

Easter God, you have met us in bread and cup, and surprised us with your joy. Send us out into the world dancing with delight and with Alleluias ringing in our hearts, to share your justice and your praise. 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 7, 2024

This week's carillon is in memory of Edith Elliott. Edith was the Matriarch of the Elliott Family and a faithful member of Forest Grove Church.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING TONIGHT: Meet at Phyllis Scarpill's – 665 Spring Valley Rd., Doylestown. The group will be helping with some heavy lifting chores.

KITCHEN CLEANING: On April 11th Louise Stemplewicz and a team of volunteers will be cleaning and reorganizing our wonderful kitchen. If you are interested in helping either call Louise or Susan in the church office to find out more information. We are asking for your help in identifying any containers, appliances etc. that you feel we need to keep. We do not want to donate items you may be using on a future date. Call or email the church office and we will put those items on our list.

SCOUT TROOP 71 FUND RAISER: Every Monday during the month of April, the Troop is having a fund raiser at Capri Pizza. It's located at: 5855 Easton Rd, Plumsteadville, PA 18949. Dine in or Take Out. Mention Troop 71 when you place your order and they'll donate a portion of proceeds to Troop 71!

DEACONS ARE LOOKING FOR VISITORS: Please see questionnaire below.

ANCHOR PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER: Please see the flyer below

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: This week we are asking for the following items: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Meat, Canned Pasta Meals. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

This week's calendar of events:

- April 7** 10:00 am Worship with Communion followed by Fellowship
 4:00 pm Iglesia Pentecostal Asamblea De Dios Worship Service
 6:30 pm Youth Group Meeting at Phyllis Scarpill's home
- April 8** 9:30 am Bible Study
 11:00 am Parish Life Meeting
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 71 Meeting
- April 9** 9:30 am Christian Ed. Meeting
 10:00 am Worship and Music Meeting
 6:00 pm Beekeepers Meeting
- April 10** 12:00 pm Bring your Brown bag lunch for Fellowship
 6:00 pm Beekeepers Meeting
- April 11 & 12** Church Kitchen Cleaning

Elder of the month: Terry Holton **Deacon of the month:** Maggie Realley

Ushers: Gerry and Louise Stemplewicz

Communion Servers: Donna Jencks, Courtney Woolslayer and Maggie Realley

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Jim Turner, Violet Sanders,
Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza, Kara Holton, Becky Schroeder,
Wes Schroeder, Eloise Hyndman, Don Huber, David Posnett, Dick Wright. Sharon Ruth



Church Staff

Susan Fall, Pastor

Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music

Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator

Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager



FROM THE DEACONS: Occasionally friends and neighbors need help with some things and the deacons try to provide that help but sometimes we also need help to provide. In that vein, we are asking if you would be willing to be called upon to provide any of the following:

1. Be willing to be called upon occasionally to provide a meal
2. Be willing to be called upon to provide a side dish for funeral luncheons
3. Be willing to be called upon occasionally to provide transportation to Doctor appointments or therapy
4. Be willing to visit our VIP's

Please circle the numbers that apply for you and drop it off in the basket on the table outside the sanctuary.

Name _____ phone # _____

Thank you for being willing to help - we appreciate it.

Deacons - Merrily Henley, Maggie Realley, Missi Dell'Orefice, Dana Daniels, Gerry and Louise Stemplewicz

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IRON HILL BREWERY
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GIVE $\text{\textcircled{\%}}$ 20

Dine with us and we'll donate 20% of your food bill* to:

Circle of Friends Preschool

valid only at the NEWTOWN location on:

4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, & 4/30

Thank you for you for your support

Show this digital flyer to your server or bartender to participate

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant
2920 S. Eagle Road, Newtown, PA 18940
www.ironhillbrewery.com