



Thanks

FOR WORSHIPING
WITH US

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 31, 2024

EASTER

10:45 AM

We welcome our friends and visitors to this Service of Worship. May this be a time of blessing for you. We encourage our visitors to include their name, address, and phone number in the Guest Book at the top of the steps and come again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to become part of the community of faith and mission here at Bethany.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "He Is the King of Glory" ...Handel arr. Hollis
Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Fear not. You seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He is risen.

C: He is risen. Alleluia!

P: Now go and tell his disciples that he goes before you. You shall see him!

C: He is risen. Alleluia!

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*OPENING HYMN: #288 Christ the Lord is Risen Today
Brass Quartet and Organ & Congregation

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Giver of new life, we come this morning with our alleluias, our flowers and trumpets and song. We come to worship in beauty and in truth because we have faith that Jesus Christ is raised from the dead, because we have hope that the resurrection will enter into each of our lives and transform them, and because, through Christ's spirit, we have come to love one another. Accept our worship, gracious God. Be

present with us as miracle and mystery, and as the good news of God. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you" Let us offer each other a sign of peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:** The Strife is O'er

The strife is o'er the battle done, now is the Victor's triumph won; O let the song of praise be sung. Alleluia!

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 10: 34-43

*Mark 16: 1-8

L: This is the Good News!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON: "Jesus and the Woman at the Tomb"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Christ is Risen!" ...G. F. Handel, arr. R. Kauffman

Chancel Choir

***OFFERING RESPONSE: #34 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost"

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

God of love, we offer our gifts of time, spiritual gifts and financial gifts as a sign of our love for You and the world. We ask Your blessing on the gifts where You meet us in our suffering, and raise us up, so that all may come to know of Your abiding love. In Jesus name. Amen.

THE SACREMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN: #169 (E&R) "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION: #305 "He Is Lord"**

"He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!"

POSTLUDE: Please be seated to enjoy "Crown Him With Many Crowns" Brass Quartet

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS: are from the members of Bethany

BULLETINS: The bulletins are sponsored by Len & Rebecca Kesselring for the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Alleluia! He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

GREETERS: Corey Tancin

USHERS: Eric Derr, Corey Tancin

LAY READER: Beverly Rumble

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10: 34 - 43 (NRSV)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Mark 16: 1 - 8 (NRSV)

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. [[And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Amen.]]



Many, many thanks to our Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir and Instrumentalists for their gift of music this morning. Our brass quartet members this morning are Chris Rumble and Lisa Williams on trumpet, Meghann Wright on Baritone and Tim Rumble on trombone.

An Order for Communion

Invitation:

M: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

C: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth, and children, come from the east and the west, from the north, and the south, and gather about Christ's table.

Call to Prayer:

M: God be with you.

C: And also, with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to God.

M: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

M: Holy God, Our Loving Creator . . . [the prayer continues until] . . . as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Thank you to all those who purchased flowers or made a monetary donation. Please take your plant after the service. The Worship Committee will assist you when you pick up your flowers. They will make sure you get exactly what you ordered.

FLOWERS IN HONOR OF:

- Beverly & William Rumble for their love & friendship by Leonard C. & Rebecca Kesselring
- Sue & Tom Wright for their love & friendship by Leonard C. & Rebecca Kesselring
- Sue Wright for her devotion to Bethany UCC and its music program by Leonard C. & Rebecca Kesselring
- Our Grandchildren Jordan, Amari & Lea by Margy & Dan Sabetti
- Our Grandchildren Ava & Claire Sabetti and Jordan, Amari & Lea Sabetti by Margy & Dan Sabetti
- Our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother Ina Denninger, by Susan, Diane and their families
- All our 5 children & 8 grandchildren with all our love, Gail & Dave Correll
- Our families by Ruth and Barry Smith
- Jennifer Leedam & Rev. Patti Hoyt by Janice Smith
- Our grandchildren, Ella Jane and Lyla Joann Sutter and Dylan Mackenzie Brunner by Dianne & Jack Brunner
- Rev. & Mrs. Helmut Kaffine and Misses Barbara & Jean Miller
- Our parents Ted & Marion Hendricks by Debbie, Wendy, Ted Jr. & Missy
 - His parents by Jonathan Reiniger

FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

- Loved ones by Pastor Todd & Jean Fennell

- Loved ones by Wendy & John Glassic
- Tom Stout, Bonnie Stout and Catherine Knipe by the Stouts and Ortweins
- Loved ones by Judy & George Morgan
- Our parents and grandparents Catherine & Herbert Yost by the Rumble Family
- Our parents and grandparents Carolyn & William Rumble Sr. by the Rumble Family
- Our Parents by Ken & Cindy Beck
- Stuart & Naomi Reigger and Roy & Evelyn Funk by Barbara Backensto and family.
- Anne & John Ruhlman and Catherine & Walter Williams by Walter Williams
- Leonard C. & Bobbi Kesselring by Leonard C. Jr. & Rebecca Kesselring
- Edward & DaMaris Stanley by Leonard C. Jr. & Rebecca Kesselring
- Parents Harold C. & Charlotte and brother Harold J. Hottle by Joan Hottle
- My parents Joe & Marie Wolfe and my brother Dennis by Marcie Wolfe
- Dorothy & Richard Miller by Matthew and Susanne Miller
- My wife Dolly Ackerman by Fred Ackerman
- Robert Hoffert Father/Husband by Geraldine and Tom Hoffert
- Rev. Dr. Donald C. Esslinger by Rev. Dr. Denise Esslinger and Phil Parizeau
- My mother Rita Gangewere by Sherri Gangewere
- My grandmother Verna Annoni
- Wayne, Love of my life and Richard, Light of my life by Linda Hollabaugh
- Our parents by Barbara & Michael Reiniger
- Sharon Haines by the Chancel Choir

MONETARY DONATIONS:

- In loving memory of Husband, Father and “Pappy” Harry W. Denninger by his wife Ina, Susan and Diane and their families
- In loving memory of Parents, Harry J. and Laura Denninger and Jacob H. and Ella Miller by Ina Miller Denninger
- With Joy on this Easter Day by Leonard and Rebecca Kesselring
In Memory of Les and Joanne Albaugh, Elvin and Mabel Bennyhoff and Thomas and Helen Fritz by Minh, Lisa, Jenna, Kaitlin, Erin Nguyen and John Albaugh

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, MARCH 31 – EASTER SUNDAY

10:45AM Celebrate the Risen Lord with Festive Music in our beautifully decorated sanctuary.

MONDAY, APRIL 1 – April Fool’s Day

9:00AM -1:00PM Church Office Hours

7PM Darts @ East Hills

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Office Closed

No Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

9:00AM -1:00PM Church Office Hours

NEXT SUNDAY APRIL 7

10:00 AM Worship followed by Annual Meeting

288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

All cre - a - tion, join to say Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
 MUSIC: Lynn Davidica, 1708

EASTER H
 7.1.7.1A

His Resurrection

ST. KEVIN

JOHN OF DAMASCUS, 8th century
Tr. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1859

7. 6. 7. 6. D.

ARTHUR SULLIVAN, 1872

Jubilantly

1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness:
2. 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst His pris - on,

God hath brought His peo - ple forth In - to joy from sad - ness.
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun hath ris - en;

Now re - joice, Je - ru - sa - lem, And with true af - fec - tion
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing

Wel - come in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
From His light, to whom we give Laud and praise un - dy - ing. A - MEN.