

“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”
God is Still Speaking

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

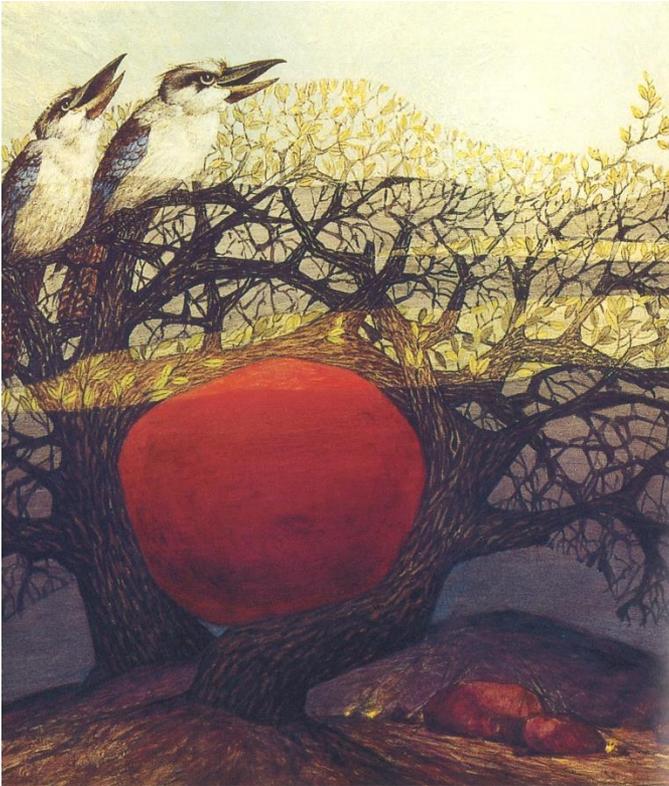
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 2, 2021

11:00 AM



Ainslie Roberts, *Laughter at Dawn*

1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403
(610) 539-1693

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“The Doe of the Morning” (Phillips)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.

People: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

People: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

Leader: In the bread and wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

People: Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Leader: Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity. Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

GATHERING HYMN

“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”
Glory to God 624

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out of your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

silent prayer of confession

KYRIE

Unison A D E A

1 Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

F# Bm E A (A)

e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
ste e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: However long we wander, however far we stray,

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Siblings, be assured: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. *adapted from Psalm 100:5*

SONG OF PRAISE

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” *Glory to God 591*

PASSING THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Acts 8:26-40

HYMN

“Breath on Me, Breath of God” *Glory to God 286*

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel Lesson John 15:1-8

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have mailed in their offerings to the church. The ministry of Ascension Church continues, we need your support. Although we cannot gather in the building right now, we still have our expenses to pay and our outreach continues.

So, please continue to **mail** in your offerings, or you may also opt to contribute **online** through our new **PayPal** account that you can access on our website at ascensionucc.org and go to the Donate page.

THE INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy the Paschal feast that, fervent in prayer and words of mercy, and renewed by your Word and sacraments; we may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, we join with the whole of your family in heaven and on earth forever praising you and singing.

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Glory to God 552

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Most holy and gracious God, in infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we have fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, in fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem the world, to live and die as one of us, but without sin, to reconcile us to you and to one another. He stretched out his arms upon the cross and there offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Leader: On the night He was delivered to suffering and death our Lord took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” After supper he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples and said, “Drink from this, all of you; this is the blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Leader: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, most holy God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts which you have given. Sanctify us that we may faithfully receive this sacrament and serve you in unity, fidelity and peace; and at the last bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal realm, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Through Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
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.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

BREAKING THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE

LAMB OF GOD

Alice Jordan



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re-deem-er of the world: give us your peace.

PARTAKING OF THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, Holy God, for giving us this meal, shared in the Spirit, which sustains us with the food and drink of life. Grace our lives that we may at the last come and share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“In Christ Called to Baptize” *Glory to God 297*

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Enthroned as the Holy One” (Gerlach)

May Birthdays

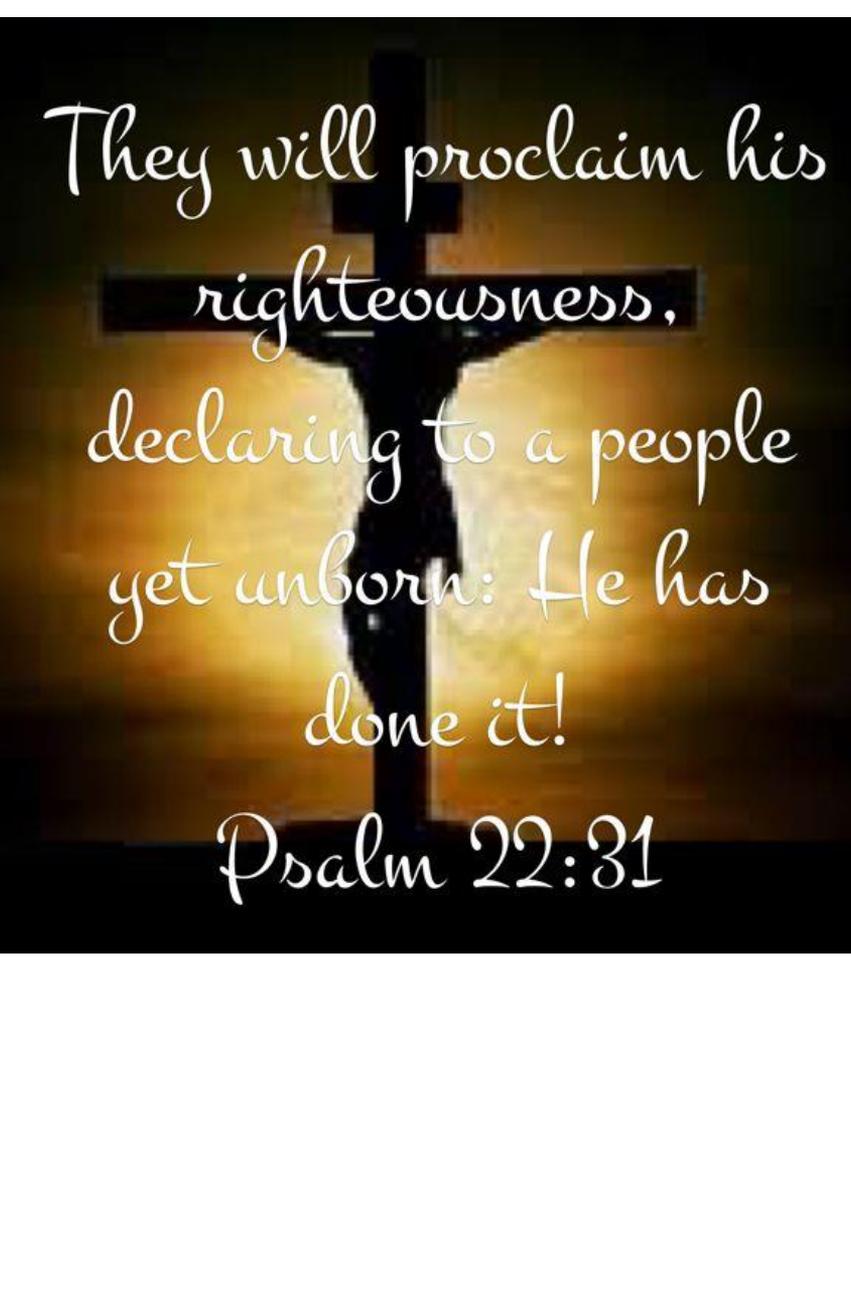
5/02-5/08/2021

Robert MacNeil, Carol Kidd (5); Liam D’Aquila (6)

May Anniversaries

5/02-5/08/2021

Lee & Sandi Fryer (6)



They will proclaim his
righteousness,
declaring to a people
yet unborn: He has
done it!

Psalm 22:31

Question for Reflection

What is your deepest desire? Jesus says that “whatever you wish . . . it will be done for you” (John 15:7). Spend time in the next days asking yourself at evermore profound levels what you most devoutly wish for in this life and the next. Then ask for it.

Household Prayer: Morning

God of all beginnings, you bring a new day, and you promise to journey with me through the hours. I thank you for the breath and strength I have, and I beg your help that I may use my powers wisely and with compassion toward everyone I meet. Let my questions today be a form of pruning to bring forth in me new understandings, healing, and good fruit; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Sweet Jesus, in this night of rest, heal my broken places and restore my faith. You are my vine; only in you am I strong enough to face the darkness of this world. I thank you for the safety of my home and pray for those who have no bed tonight. Make me grateful, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all. Amen.



We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.

We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Ministers | All the people of the Congregation |
| Pastor | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier |
| Minister of Music | Dan Weckerly |
| President of the Consistory | Liz Brunton |
| Vice President of the Consistory | Michele Luke |
| Secretary of the Consistory | Molly Lorenz |
| Moderator of Spiritual Council | Molly Lorenz |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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