

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

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

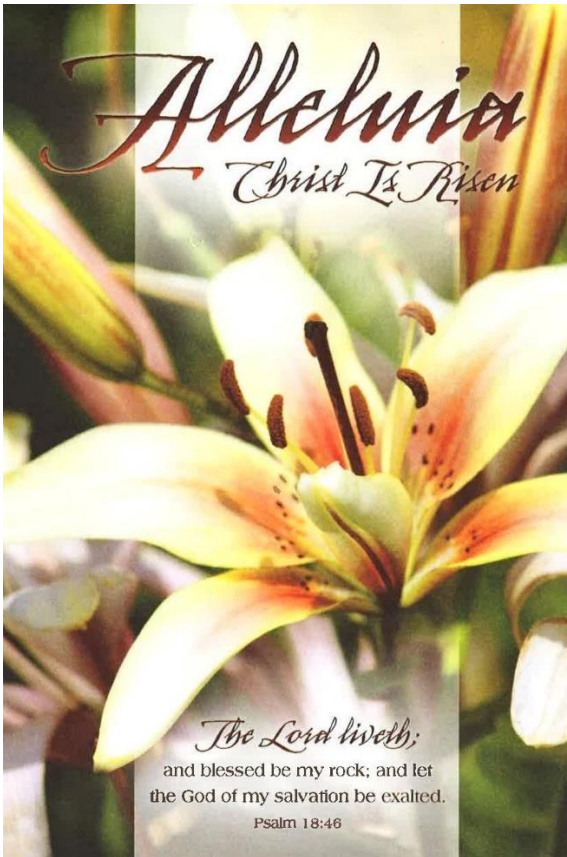
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



An Open and Affirming Congregation

April 12, 2020

11:00 AM



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Resurrection Joy” (Letterman/Hague)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

INTROIT

please rise

All singing *Tune: Hymn To Joy*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Risen, victor o’er the grave;

Alleluia! Love has triumphed,

praise God’s glorious, holy name!

**Jesus conquered death and sorrow,
pierced the darkness with God’s light,
and assured in resurrection –
grace to live, and faith to die.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: We come to this place, seeking Jesus in the familiar story of our faith.

People: Do not meet us only here, O Living Christ,
but surprise us with Resurrection power in
all places of our lives!

Leader: We gather together to sing and pray the story we know by heart, a story of loving triumph and powerful grace.

People: Alleluia!

Leader: We join our hearts in song and sing, “Alleluia! Alleluia!” for Christ is living and so are we!

People: Alleluia indeed!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Alleluia! Alleluia!” Tune: Hyfrydol verses 1 & 2

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise.
He who on the cross as Savior For the world’s salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born,
Glorious life, and life immortal, On this holy Easter morn;
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer By His mighty enterprise,
We with Him to life eternal By His resurrection rise.

CALL TO CONFESSION

those who desire to kneel, may do so at this time

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we confess to you that while we know well the story of your victory over the grave, it is not a story we always live. We are dragged down by all manner of death. Fear may suffocate us: the loss of dreams and hopes for ourselves, our families, our communities and our world. Sorrow may wall us off like a grave, isolating us with anger, frustration, and grief.

silence

Yet the smooth stones of our faith are inscribed not with the marks of death, but with the word, “Alleluia!” so on this Easter morning, we pray that you will fill us with “fear and great joy” so that, like those women who came to the tomb expecting death, we may instead find the radiant new life that is ever before us in your Resurrection! Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Just as Christ did not come to condemn but to liberate, so too is Christ raised from death not to judge but to celebrate. Cast off the yoke of sorrow and instead raise up the scepter of joy – Christ lives! We live! All is made new on this Resurrection morning!

People: **Alleluia and amen!**

PRAISE RESPONSE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia! To the Triune Majesty.

PASSING THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:1-6

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: **Holy Word**

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. Please let us know if you encounter any issues accessing PayPal and know that we are grateful for your generosity.

INVITATION

All: (singing) Tune: Easter Hymn

Christ the Lord is risen today, Al—le-lu-ia!

Sons of men and angels say, Al—le-lu-ia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Al—le-lu-ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Al—le-lu-ia!

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **and with your spirit.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing to give you praise Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

All: (singing) Tune: Easter Hymn

**Lives again our glorious King, Al—le-lu-ia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al—le-lu-ia!
Once He died, our souls to save, Al—le-lu-ia!
Where's thy victory, O grave? Al—le-lu-ia!**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body which is broken for you, Do this in remembrance of me..." We remember Christ's promise not to drink of the fruit of the vine again until the heavenly banquet, and there we say boldly what we believe.

All: Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

All: (singing) Tune: Easter Hymn
Love's redeeming work is done, Al—le-lu-ia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Al—le-lu-ia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Al—le-lu-ia!
Christ has opened Paradise, Al—le-lu-ia!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them
be for us the body and blood of Christ that we
may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us
one with Christ, one with each other, and one in
ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in
final victory and we feast at his heavenly
banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the
Holy Spirit in your holy church all honor and
glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

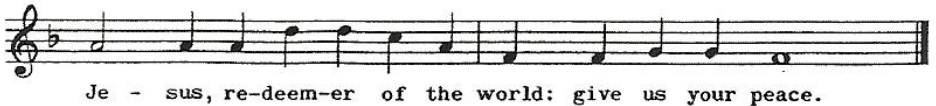
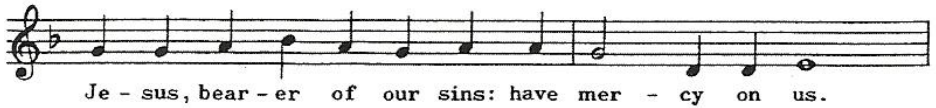
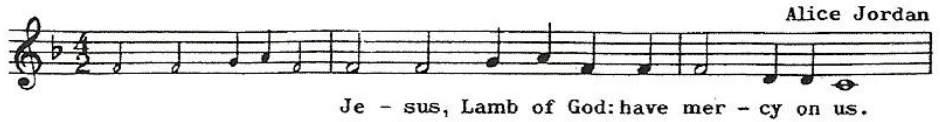
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 OF THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE

Leader: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we share in the new life Christ gives.

LAMB OF GOD



Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Amen.

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready, come and taste and see how good the Lord is.

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 your life. Grace our lives that we may at last come to share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 6/8 time signature. The first staff has four measures with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' and guitar chords A, F, D, E, A, D, E above it. The second staff has four measures with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' and guitar chords A, E, Bm, E, A, D, L, A above it.

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Sunrise on an Empty Tomb”

(Dietrich)

We are grateful for permission from One License to stream the music in this service with license #A-000000.

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS



in memory of:

Betty and Keith Eisenberger, by Kent Eisenberg
Betty & Gerald Fryer, Mary J. Fletcher, and
Dorothy & Carl Lucas, by Bob and Nancy Fryer
Our Mother, Evelyn Hallman, our Father, Charles Hallman,
and our Sister-In-Law, Carole Hallman,
by Maureen and Joseph Hallman
My parents, George and Alma M. Klehamer,
by George Klehamer
My friend, Doris M. Kulp, by George Klehamer
Mary and Michael Pontecorvo and John Gilner,
by Michele Luke

in honor of:

Margareta Alb, by Stela Suto



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, Joan Hagerman, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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