

**“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***

**March 22, 2020**

**11:00 AM**



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

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## Order of Worship

### PRELUDE

“Prayer” (Skimmon)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*please rise*

**Leader:** To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People:** **In you, O God, I place my trust.**

**Leader:** Make known your paths.

**People:** **Lead me in your truth.**

**Leader:** Your kingdom is coming near.

**People:** **Be present in our midst.**

**Leader:** To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**People:** **In you, O God, I place my trust.**

### GATHERING HYMN

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness” *Glory to God 314*  
*Verses 1 & 2*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

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

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we often lack the courage and strength to resist the temptations in our path. It is so hard to believe that your realm is near, so hard to act as if we truly believe. We fail to hear your call in our lives, we miss your presence among our lives. Hear us now as we confess our weaknesses and temptations. God's great love and rich mercy have made us alive in Christ. Let us depart to live lives of grace, and to do good works.

### *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 -  
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -

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: O Lord, open my lips,

People: and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

“We Are Standing on Holy Ground” *Glory to God 406*

## PASSING THE PEACE

## HYMN

*please rise*

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*Glory to God 39*

## THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

*please be seated*

Hebrew Lesson	1 Samuel 16:1-13	<i>page 259</i>
	Psalm 23	<i>page 501</i>
Epistle Lesson	Ephesians 5:8-14	<i>page 194</i>
	<i>please rise</i>	
Gospel Lesson	John 9:1-41	<i>page 102</i>
	Leader: Holy Wisdom	
	<b>People: Holy Word</b>	

## THE SERMON

## THE INVITATION

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

**People: and with thy spirit.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**People: It is just and right so to do.**

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 had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, in the 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.

Leader: 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. On the night he was delivered to suffering and death, our Lord took bread, gave thanks to you, 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 you, 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 them by your Holy Spirit to be for us the body and blood of your Son, the gracious food and drink of new and unending life. Sanctify us that we may faithfully receive this sacrament and serve you in unity, fidelity and peace; and at 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 OF THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE**

*“O, Lamb of God”                      Glory to God 555  
O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have  
mercy on us, Lamb of God, and grant 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 last come to share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”    Glory to God 314  
Verses 3-5*

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Leader: Know this, your faith has made you well.

People: **We know that our faith has been made stronger.**

Leader: Follow Christ on the way.

People: **Amen! Jesus is the way.**

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“Ubi caritas”

*Glory to God 205*

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - - mor,  
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.  
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love.  
Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a comma, and the second staff ends with a double bar line. The third and fourth staves also end with double bar lines. The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing.

## TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

### POSTLUDE

“Pardoned in Our Commission”

(King)









*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.*

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

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