



100 Years
1924-2024

3rd Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024
10:00 AM

Rev. Cassie Heintz, Guest Preacher
Megan Prescott-Ezickson, Director of Music Ministry
Kathy Doyle, Liturgist

Welcome!

We hope you experience the grace of God
while you worship with us.

Thank you to those serving today.

Counters: Kathy Wike, Ted Hidell

Liturgist: Kathy Doyle

Ushers: Lori Hendrzak, Nanci Petroski, Christa Reynolds

WOW Jr. Aide: Sue Ulmer

WOW Aide: Jeanne Richards

WOW Teacher: Kim Paulina

WOW Jr. Teacher: Kayla Murphy

Helpful Worship Information

Children's activity bags for use during worship are in the tie-dye bags next to the table in the Narthex. Please *clean out and return bags* after the service.

Child care for infants and young children under age 6 is provided during the service in our nursery. The nursery is located on the Main Floor, in the Rabbit Hill classroom next to the Lounge, beginning at 9:45 to 11:15AM.

Blue Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks and on the table in the Narthex. If you would like to request prayers, please fill one out and the ushers will collect them during our first hymn.

Please keep these members and friends in your prayers:

Anne Branton, Dana Catania, Felicia Clapper, Jim Harrington,
Gussie Logue, Lisa Neff, Rose Marie Sharkey, Mary Smith, Nora Smith.



* *Please stand if you are able.*

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WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Who You Say I am, Morgan/Fielding

Praise Band

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the Easter Season!

All: The season of new life – and a breath of the Spirit.

One: As we enter this time of worship together,

All: may we open our hearts to the renewal of our minds and our spirits. May we dare to let go and dance with renewed vigor as we allow resurrection hope to fill our bodies and souls!

* HYMN 246 *Christ Is Alive!*

CHILDREN'S TIME

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

How many times have we missed seeing you Risen Lord? How many times have we been too frightened to trust your promises? Let us turn to God in prayer confessing the truth of our lives. God's grace reaches out to us. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired, new love where we have turned hard-hearted, forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves. Help us to find new life within us and witness new life in all that we do. In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession...

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Hear this good news! God has loved you from the very beginning. The invitation of Christ is never-ending because resurrection can happen at any moment. The Holy Spirit is transforming you even now! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen!

* GLORIA PATRI 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me!*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INVITATION TO GRATITUDE

Jesus called his disciples “witnesses” to the possibility of resurrection. The world is in need of continued resurrection to new life. We are called to be witnesses to this journey to newness by offering our resources and our energy to the work of justice and love through our offering today.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Yet Not I*, Farren/Robinson/Thompson Praise Band

* DOXOLOGY 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Living God, you have given us so much in Jesus Christ: hope, joy, peace and new life. What little we have we offer to you for the sake of your life-giving work. Help us to spark resurrection new life in our community and worldwide for the sake of all your people. In the name of our Risen Lord we pray. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of new life, allow this story to spark something new in us. Allow this story to give us pause, to pull us in, to hear the beat of your heart. We are listening. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 3: 1-3 (*NRSV, adapted*)

See what love the Holy One has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:36b-48 (*NRSV, adapted*)

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then Jesus said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

SERMON

Rev. Cassie Heintz

* HYMN 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* HYMN 254 *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

* **BENEDICTION**

Announcements

100 Year Anniversary Committee

We need all hands on deck! Help is needed to set up for our 100 Year Anniversary day of events. We will be meeting Friday April 19th, Saturday April 20th, and before church on Sunday the 21st. Please reach out to Anna Greene, the church office, or anyone on the committee if you are able to help.

WOW Volunteers for Teaching needed

Would you like to teach WOW?! Our WOW kids grades 2 through 5 need teacher volunteers. An easy-to-use curriculum will be provided! Please use the sign up link in Thursday's Weekly Newsletter email to choose a Sunday. Or contact Anna Greene, annadgreene@gmail.com, or Kristen Manderachi, kmmaze@hotmail.com.

Mission of the Month

April's mission of the month is our own Youth Group's mission trip to Blue Theology in Coastal North Carolina. Blue theology is a place where current science in marine biology meets a theology of creation justice. Each Summer, they host youth groups to engage in experiential learning, service projects, and contemplative practice with God's marine creation. This is a very exciting opportunity for our youth to further develop their faith in relationship to God and God's creation. They can't wait to go in mid July. However, we can't go without your continued support. This year, the cost is \$450 per person. We're hoping to raise as much as we can and encourage our congregation to partially or fully sponsor a youth. You can learn more about where we are going and what we will learn here at bluetheology.com.

Vacation Bible School

Please join us for a fun-filled four days in the summer! Our VBS is for children four-years-old to going into 5th grade and will happen June 24-27, from 9:15-11:45 AM. The cost is \$10 per child or \$20 per family (in cash or check). We hope you can join us! Use this link <https://forms.gle/kg35cwSmCRa1Ln6X9> also found in Thursday's Weekly Newsletter email to sign up! We also need volunteers to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kristen Manderachi, kmmaze@hotmail.com, or Anna Greene, annadgreene@gmail.com.

Steeple Lighting Saturday at 7:30PM!

As part of our 100 Year Anniversary celebrations our steeple is going to be lit for the first time in many many years! We'll meet in the Memorial Prayer Garden, have a brief "Service of Light" by Pastor Kate, and light the steeple. Come and celebrate this really cool part of our church and history. Saturday evening, April 20th, 7:30PM.

Schedule

Today, Sunday, April 14

10AM Worship
1PM Phila Freedom Chorus Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
2-4PM Cub Scouts ~ LH
3-6PM Cub Scout Banquet ~ FH
6:30PM Tower Youth

Monday, April 15

7-8:30PM Boy Scouts ~ FH
7-9PM Boy Scouts ~ LH

Tuesday, April 16

10AM Knitters ~ LO
6:30PM Girl Scouts Troop 5140 ~ FH

Wednesday, April 17

6PM Girl Scouts/Cory Cehlar ~ FH
6:30PM Session Meeting ~ LO

Thursday, April 18

6:30PM Handbell Rehearsal
7:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 19

3PM 100 Year Service setup and preparations ~ FH
6:30PM Al-Anon ~ LH

Saturday April 20

9AM 100 Year Service setup and preparations ~ FH
7:30PM Steeple Lighting ~ Memorial Prayer Garden

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