

**ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**PENNSBURG, PA**

**April 4, 2021**

**Easter Sunday**

**Pastor K. Russell Crouthamel**

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**Soloist: Jill Haldeman**

**Lay Reader: Pastor Paul Bartlett**

**WELCOME**

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, Risen Christ  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.  
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.  
Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.  
To you be given all praise,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

v.1: Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day. Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross. Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

v.2: Hymns of praise then let us sing. Alleluia! Unto Christ our heavenly King. Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave. Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

v.3: But the pains which he endured. Alleluia! Our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above the sky he's king. Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

v.4: Sing we to our God above. Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love. Alleluia! Praise him, all you heavenly host. Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

**\*GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

**FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>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; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

## **PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,  
"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the  
tents of the righteous: "The right hand of  
the lord acts valiantly!"**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>This is the gate of the Lord,  
here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

*The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

<sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 16: 1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

<sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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." <sup>8</sup>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.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Russ Crouthamel

**ANTHEM**

*The Festal Day Is Here*

arr. Hal H. Hopson

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news wherever death holds sway. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring it to blossom and flourish; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill the nations with your peace. Draw together people of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering, those who are dying, and those who grieve. Bring comfort and hope to **Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Renae, Charlie, Marie, David, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Steve, Barbara, Pat, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June, Mary Jane and Charlene.** Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. Multiply that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Praise to you for your faithfulness revealed in the resurrection! Fill us with trust, that we join with all who have gone before us in proclaiming: "your mercy endures forever!" Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of love,  
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.  
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.  
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;  
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **\*EASTER**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Gathered Into One By The Holy Spirit, Let Us Pray As Jesus Taught Us –

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ invites us to this table.  
Come, eat and be satisfied.

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Wellspring of joy,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

P: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us into children of God through the resurrection of God's Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God's blessing.

**C: Amen.**

P: May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

**C: Amen.**

P: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

**C: Amen!**

**\*HYMN**

*Thine Is the Glory*

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v.1: Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death has won! Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay. R.

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

v.2: Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom; let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting! R.

v.3: No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'ers, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. R.

**DISMISSAL:**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

\*\*\*\*\*

We welcome everyone to worship on this Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day. Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians. If you would like more information on baptism, Pastor Russ would love to speak with you!

It is our plan to hold worship outdoors in the courtyard and/or parking lot going forward. It is our hope we become adept at making the outdoor services go smoothly. It is our wish that it won't be too long before we can gather indoors again. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

In order to ensure the least possible risk of covid transmission during these courtyard gatherings, we ask that singing only be done by the song leader. Please maintain a safe distance from each other. Masks are required. Thank you for helping us all stay safe and well!



Sunday School is planning to hold a mini Easter egg hunt following today's service.

The bulletins are presented by Sally Bauman in loving memory of Pauline Bauman.

If we were worshipping indoors, the altar flowers would have been presented by Barbara Bieler in loving memory of her husband Walter.

Esther Arner's birthday is today! She is 90 years young! If you wish to send her, or call with, birthday wishes, here is her address: 128 Five Points Road, Macungie, PA 18062. Esther's phone number is: 215-679-4817.

Helene & Willard Long will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 7<sup>th</sup>! Happy Anniversary! If you wish to shower them with cards, the address is 160 Washington St., Red Hill, PA 18076. Or call: 215-679-2172.

The cemetery has an open position for part-time work. If you are interested, please contact Charlie Schultz at 610-462-8284 or call the church office.

### **Looking Ahead**

April 13<sup>th</sup>: Outreach Committee – 6:30PM

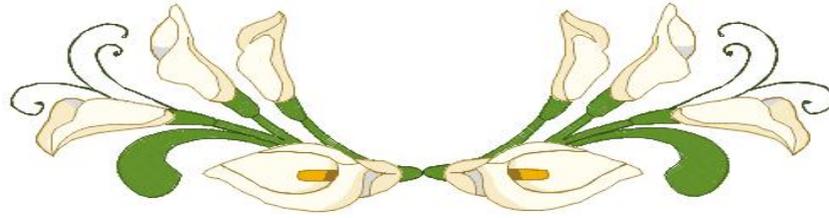
April 16<sup>th</sup>: Outreach Virtual Fun Night – 6PM

April 20<sup>th</sup>: Worship Committee Meeting – 6:30PM

The Outreach Committee is planning to hold a virtual cooking night! We will all be making pizza! Doesn't that sound delicious. There will also be games to participate in while we all wait for the pizza to bake.. The master chefs will be Donna & Jeff Ney. As soon as I get the ingredient list, I will send it out in Remarks & Reminders along with the Zoom link. If you are not receiving the weekly Remarks & Reminders, please contact the church office with your email address.

Thank you to Bill Folk for all his work putting together our recorded services and making possible the outdoor services. Special thanks to Bonnie Gillespie for taking on all aspects of altar duties during this difficult year.

This year our Easter tulips were donated by many of you and they were given to some very special members of our church family to help brighten their Easter celebration. In the same way, some of you provided azaleas to brighten up the courtyard for our outdoor Easter service. Our thanks to the Outreach Committee and to Diane Mohr and Joan Brunner for organizing this. Our thanks also to the following people:



## EASTER FLOWER SPONSORS

Ruth Ann & Paul Bartlett  
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Jenn & Don Pyne  
Linda & Robert Reed  
Maribeth & Pete Reigner  
Kathy & Terry Romich  
Sharon & Al Schultz  
Elaine & Allen Strimpel  
Charlene Wilson

### **Prayer List**

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Marilyn Donis, Randy Dotter, Andrew Erb, Renae Fosbenner, Charlie Greulich, Marie Grubb, David Haines, Harold Hieter, Marie Jones, Dennis Laubach, Steve Law, Barbara Lehmann, Pat Matthews, Kenneth Miller, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski, Lenny Rafalko, June Reigner, Mary Jane Schaeffer and Charlene Wilson.

Please call the church office with any changes.

**Preparing for next week:**

**Monday:** Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; Genesis 1:1-19;  
1 Corinthians 15: 35-49  
**Tuesday:** 1 Corinthians 15:50-58; Genesis 1:20-2:4a  
**Wednesday:** Mark 16:1-8; Song of Solomon 3:1-11  
**Thursday:** Psalm 133; Daniel 1:1-21; Acts 2:42-47  
**Friday:** Daniel 2:1-23; Acts 4:23-31  
**Saturday:** John 12:44-50; Daniel 2:24-49

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