



COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024

To our guests,

Welcome! We are delighted to have you with us this morning. Our goal each Sunday is to glorify and enjoy the God Who made us and saved us by His grace. If you have any questions about our church, please do not hesitate to ask.

In Christ,
Pastor Noah Wiersema

Thank you for visiting with us!

Using your phone, please scan this code and fill out our online visitor card.
We would love to know you are here and answer any questions you may have.



Hearing Assist: Sanitized devices are available from our ushers.

Large Print version of the bulletin is available in the narthex.

Why a pelican?



Carved into the front of our pulpit is one of the most ancient symbols of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. Often referred to as "the pelican in her piety," this symbol offers a vivid picture of how Christ's death brings us life: according to legend, a mother pelican will pluck her breast to feed her young with her blood during a time of famine. As a church, Christ's stunning grace is not only front-and-center in our sanctuary but, more importantly, in our lives. The image of the pelican serves as a frequent reminder that we are deeply rooted in Christ so that we might reach out with Christ.

For Children:

Junior Bulletin: We love having our children participate with us in worship! Each week, we provide a children's version of our bulletin that can be found in the narthex.

Nursery: The nursery is temporarily relocated to Room 13 downstairs. If you need help locating it, please feel free to ask an usher for assistance

Wiggle Room: If you need to step out of the Sanctuary with your child, the Mare Room offers a closed circuit feed of the worship service along with a few toys. Our ushers would be happy to direct you.

Children's Worship: A worship training time for children ages four through first grade is offered during the sermon. Children begin worship in the sanctuary and will be dismissed at the appropriate time. Parents should pick up their children in the Heartland Room on the Lower Level after the service.

Kids Praise: During the evening service, children ages four through sixth grade are invited to join us for a variety of Bible-related activities. Children are dismissed from worship to meet their leaders in the narthex at approximately 6:10pm. **There is NO Kids Praise tonight.**

MORNING WORSHIP

Reflection

*Ere yet the dawn hath filled the skies,
Behold my Savior Christ arise;
He chaseth from us sin and night
And brings us joy and life and light.
Hallelujah!*

✠ Johann Heermann

As we enter into worship, please silence your cell phones.

Prelude • *Now the Green Blade Riseth*

Handbell Choir

*Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

*In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

*Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

Greeting

Choral Introit • *An Easter Call to Praise*

CHOIR: *Let all the world rejoice and sing. Let every festive bell now ring.
Worship with joy the risen King! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
*This is the day that Love has made. Jesus has risen from the grave.
Easter is rolling stones away. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
*Run to the garden see the sight. All of creation blooming bright.
Come and celebrate the Light. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
*Let us all join our hearts as one. See now the rising of the Son!
Rejoice! A new song has begun! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Call to Worship • from Psalm 66

PASTOR: *Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!*

PEOPLE: How awesome are your deeds! All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.

PASTOR: *Come and see what God has done; he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.*

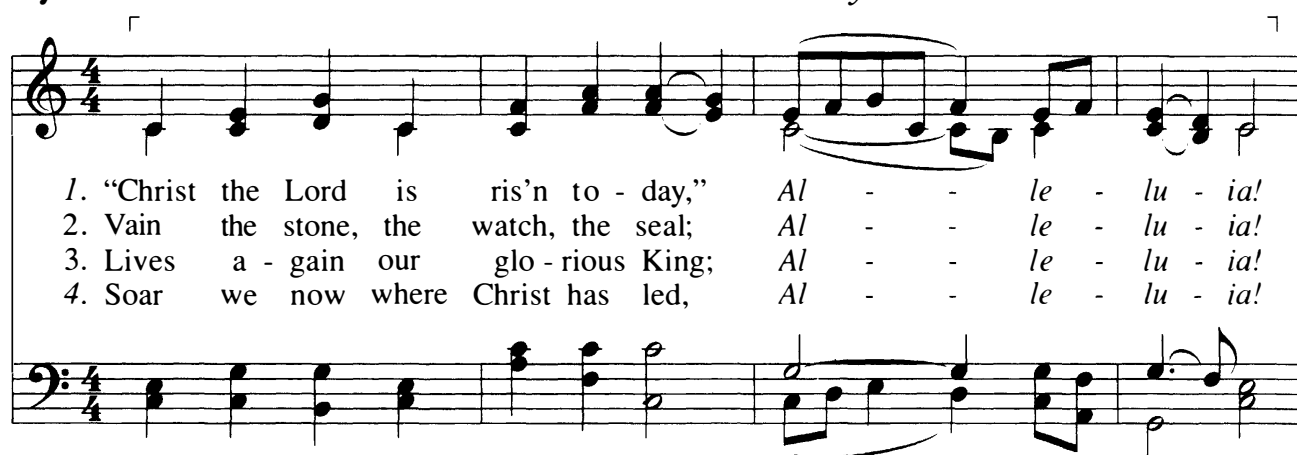
PEOPLE: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever.

PASTOR: *Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.*

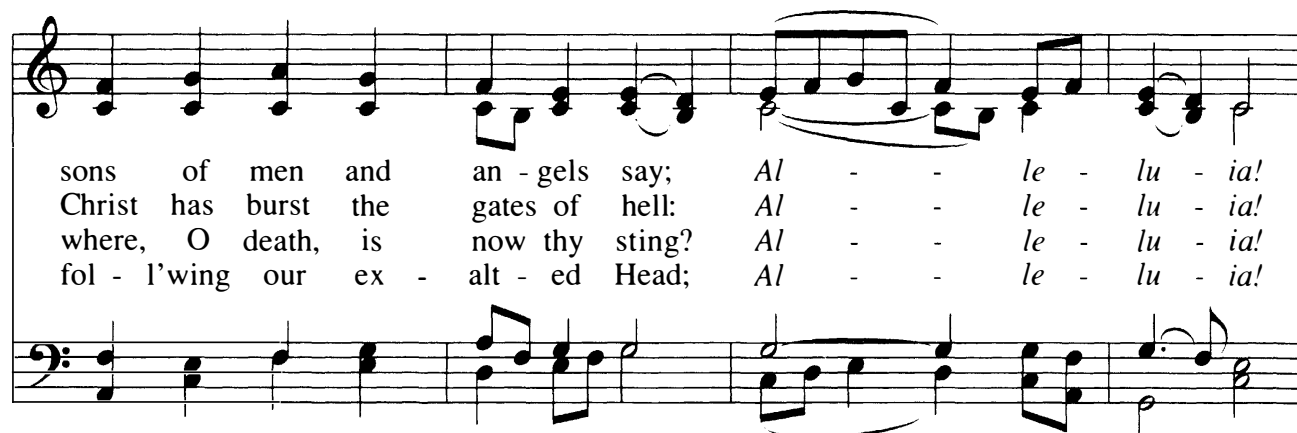
ALL: **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

Hymn of Adoration • Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

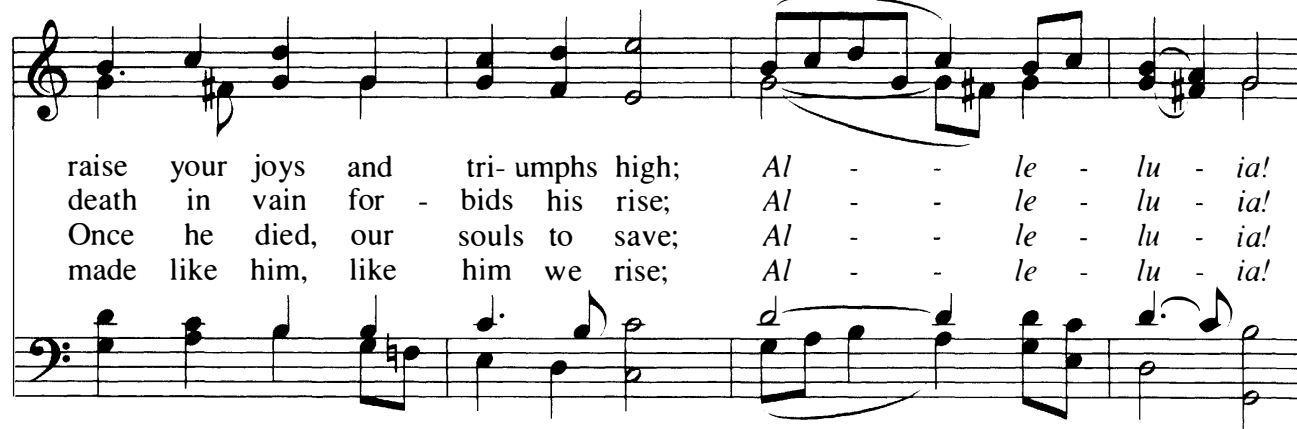
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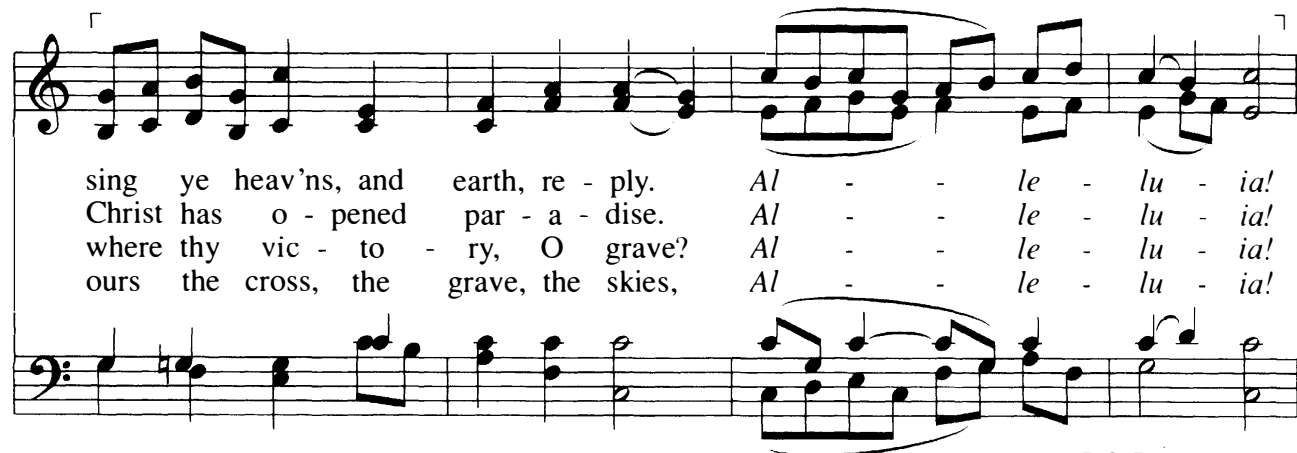
1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day," Al - - le - lu - ia!
 2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - - le - lu - ia!



sons of men and an - gels say; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has burst the gates of hell: Al - - le - lu - ia!
 where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head; Al - - le - lu - ia!



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 death in vain for - bids his rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died, our souls to save; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 made like him, like him we rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!



sing ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - - le - lu - ia!

Invocation

Profession of Faith • The Apostles' Creed

ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

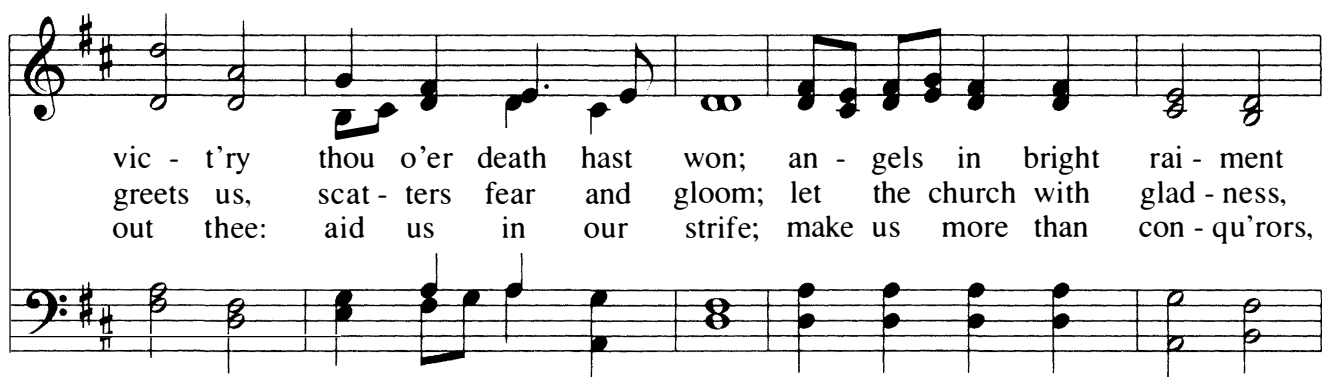
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Adoration • *Thine Be The Glory*

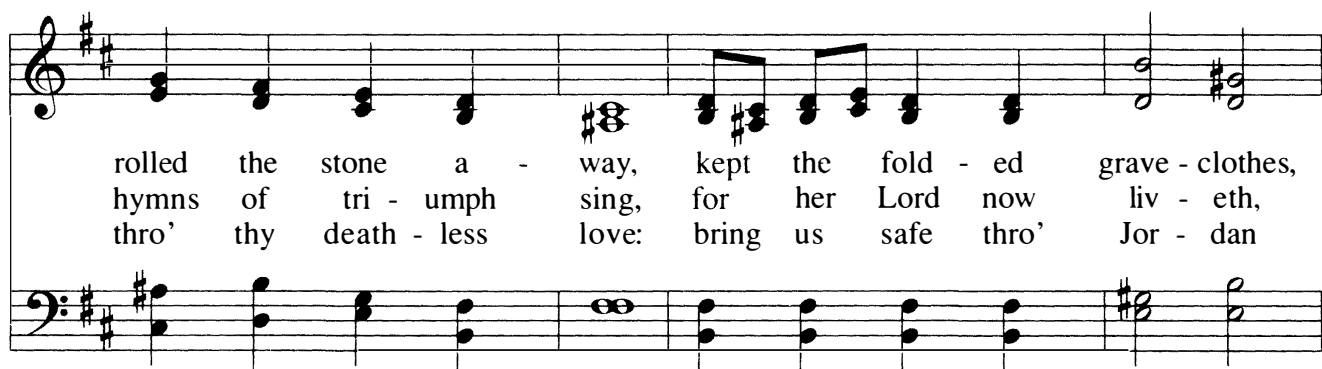
#274

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he
3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with -

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves.



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment
greet us, scat - ters fear and gloom; let the church with glad - ness,
out thee: aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes,
hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth,
thro' thy death - less love: bring us safe thro' Jor - dan

REFRAIN



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
to thy home a - bove.



end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

Edmond Budry, 1884
Tr. by Richard B. Hoyle, 1923
Text © 1923, World Student Christian Federation. Used by permission.

MACCABAEUS 10.11.11.ref.
From George Frederick Handel, *Judas Maccabaeus*, 1747

Corporate Confession of Sin • from Romans 3 and Mark 16

PASTOR: *Now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.*

PEOPLE: For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Lord, we confess that we have sinned and fallen short of your glory in thought, word, and deed. Though Christ has been raised, we are full of fear and doubt. We trust in ourselves rather than in you. Instead of proclaiming your good news to the world and living in light of the resurrection, we are silent. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon • from Romans 3

PASTOR: *People of God, Christ is Risen! You have been justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Litany for Easter

PASTOR: *O Christ, after your resurrection you appeared to your disciples; you breathed on them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit. You gave joy and exultation to the whole creation. Through your victory, we pray to you:*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *O Christ, after your resurrection you sent out your disciples to teach all nations and to baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; you promised to be with them and us until the end of the world. Through your victory, we pray to you:*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *O Christ, through your resurrection you lifted us up, and filled us with rejoicing. Through your salvation you enrich us with your gifts. Renew our lives and fill our hearts with joy. Through your victory, we pray to you:*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *O Christ, you are glorified by angels in heaven, and worshiped on earth. On the glorious feast of your resurrection, we pray to you:*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *Save us, O Christ our Lord, in your goodness, extend your mercy to your people who await the resurrection, and have mercy on us.*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *O Merciful God, you raised your beloved Son, and in your love You established him as head of your church, and ruler of the universe. By your goodness we pray:*

PEOPLE: Hear us, Lord of glory.

PASTOR: *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. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

ALL: **Amen.**

Please take a moment to sign the attendance register.

Offertory • *Jesus Is Risen*

Arr. Joseph M. Martin

CHOIR: *Jesus is risen! Sing alleluia! New life is given, hope is restored. Let
there be singing, worship bells ringing, all the world bringing
praise to the Lord.*

*Spring is beginning, run to the garden. Life now is winning, death is
no more. All of creation bring celebration, shout to the nations,
Jesus is Lord!*

*Heaven has spoken, shout from the mountains, chains are all broken,
life is set free; sin is forgiven, love now our mission. Jesus is risen,
risen indeed! Jesus is risen indeed!*

Children's Worship

*Parents, please bring participating children ages 4–1st grade
downstairs to the Heartland Room during the following hymn.*

Hymn of Preparation • *The Day of Resurrection!*

#267

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right;
 3. Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin;

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 let the round world keep tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from this world to the sky,
 and lis - ening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 in - vis - i - ble and vis - i - ble, their notes let all things blend,

our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Scripture Reading • Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

1. An Open Door (1-4)

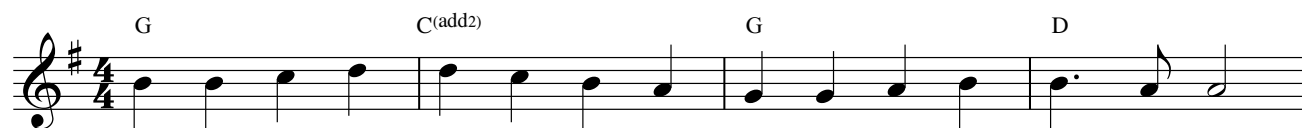
2. An Open Invitation (5-7)

3. An Open Ending (8)

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Gluten-free bread is located on the communion table at the front of the sanctuary.

Communion Hymn • Alleluia! Alleluia!



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise;
 2. Christ is ris - en, Christ the first-fruits of the ho - ly har - vest field,
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;



sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise:
 which will all its full a - bun-dance at his sec - ond com - ing yield:
 al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior, who has won the vic - to - ry;



he who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
 then the gold - en ears of har - vest will their heads be - fore him wave,
 al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty.



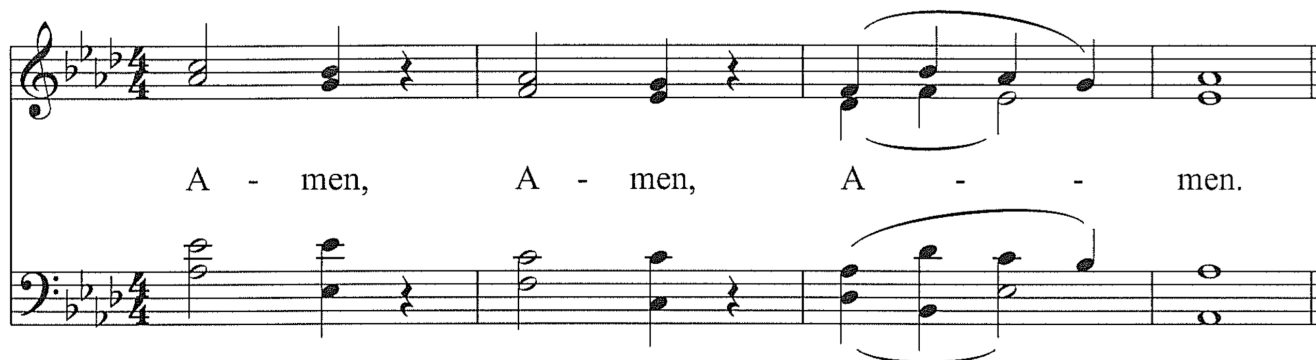
Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
 rip - ened by his glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia to the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862.
 Alt. 1961

ODE TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr.

Benediction

Threefold Amen



A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

The Peace of Christ

PASTOR: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

PEOPLE: And also with you!

Postlude

How Can We Pray for You?

Stephen Ministers will be available after the first service until 10:00am each Sunday to pray in confidence for you or with you about any personal situation you have. We will be in John Roberts' office (formerly the Bride's room) located between the Sanctuary and the Commons.

Musicians – Jonathan McGuire, Organ & Piano; Tim Cole, Choir Director;
Ben Dodd, Trumpet; Matt Burgess, Trombone; Carl Zimmerman, Handbell Choir Director

Unless noted otherwise, all Scripture notations are from The ESV Bible
[The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
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CONNECTIONS

THIS WEEK at COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TODAY, MARCH 31

NO Evening Worship
NO Kids Praise

Choir | 6:30pm; Sanctuary

Handbells | 8:00pm; Room 16

Women's Bible Study | 6:45pm; Debbie Brandenburg's home

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Women's Bible Study | 7:00pm; Kathy Jacobs' home

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am; Mare Room & Heartland Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Jr. High D-Groups | 5:00pm; Youth House

Sr. High D-Groups | 7:00pm; Youth House

Prayer Meeting | 7:00pm; Zoom

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Birds & Bees Parenting Seminar | 6:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events: *for more information about all of our upcoming events, scan the QR code or visit www.cpcstl.org/calendar or the "Upcoming Events" tab in the app.*

April 5: Birds & Bees Parenting Seminar
April 7: Outdoor Service (10:00am) - No Sunday School
April 12: Code 56 Minute-to-Win-It!
April 13: Women's Spring Luncheon
April 14: Family Fold Sunday School
April 14: Visitor Lunch
April 15: Women's Book Club
April 15: Guys Night Out
April 19 - 20: Men's Retreat
April 21: New Members Class Begins
April 21: Stephen Ministry Informational Session
May 4: Pig Pickin'



ANNOUNCEMENTS continued

Birds & Bees Parenting Seminar

Friday, April 5 | 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Join us for an equipping evening designed to give parents the tools and confidence to talk to their young kids (10 and under) about sex. Register and pay for the seminar through the **QR code**.



Women's Spring Luncheon

Saturday, April 13 | 11:30am-1:00pm; Fellowship Hall

Ladies ages 10+ are invited to the Women's Spring Luncheon. Please join us for fellowship over lunch and a talk on 1 Peter 3:15-16 from Morgan Fikkert. The cost is \$15 per person. RSVP through the **QR code** or by clicking the link in the weekly email. **RSVP deadline is Sunday, April 7.** Hope to see you there!



Men's Retreat

Friday, April 19 - Saturday, April 20 | High Hill Christian Camp

Join the men of Covenant for our Annual Retreat on April 19-20 at High Hill Christian Camp. Register through the **QR code**. **Registration deadline is April 15.**



Stephen Ministry Informational Session

Sunday, April 21 | after the 11:00 service (12:30pm); Commons

RSVP to Mary Beth McGreevy (Mbmcmcgreevy@sbcglobal.net).

Care Meals

For further information, see the weekly email.

Jim & Janet Gray – continued recovery from their hospital stays;
<https://mealtrain.com/4169y5>. Scan the **QR code** to sign up to take them a meal!



Sanctuary Helpers Needed

In the pew cubby in front of you, you will find a handout that explains the need for sanctuary help volunteers. Feel free to take a card and sign up to help.

Covenant Christian School Food Drive

Join church member Jennifer Carrera's fourth grade class as they collect food for Operation Food Search. This collection is part of a student service project that also includes packaging meals to send overseas. The food collected through this drive will go to local STL families. Canned goods, pasta, boxed meal kits, dried spices, deodorant, and toothbrushes are all welcome. **Drop off by April 7.**

VBS Registration Open!

VBS is coming June 17-22! Registration is open for 3 year olds (by June 1 and potty-trained) through rising 6th graders. Sign up at <https://cpcstl.org/vbs> or through the **QR code**. We are already on a waitlist for preschool and limited spots remain for other age groups.



Outdoor Service!

Sunday, April 7 | 10:00am; Youth House Lawn

Join us for one worship service outdoors! Bring a chair and a picnic lunch for you and your family. **Nursery and Children's Worship will not be offered during the outdoor service.**

CURRENT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY!

**Enjoy our Easter Reception in the Fellowship Hall!
Crafts for children will be available.**

COMMUNITY GROUPS

MONDAY

Klinger Group

1st & 3rd Mondays; 3:00pm

Contact: Jeff Klinger, jklklinger23@att.net

Campbell Group (Men Only)

1st & 3rd Tuesday; 7:00pm (12903 Tundra Court, 63131)

Contact: Bill Campbell, wfcstlouis@gmail.com

THURSDAY

McGreevy Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 6:30pm | I Corinthians

Contact: Mary Beth McGreevy, mbmcgreevy@sbcglobal.net

Yates Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 7:00pm | Genesis 1-11

Contact: Linda Yates, lindacyates@sbcglobal.net

Allen Group (St. Charles)

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 7:00pm

(32 Weldon Spring Heights Drive, 63304)

Contact: Ellie Allen, ellie.moore.allen@gmail.com

(Thursday continued)

South County Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays; 6:30pm

The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges

Contact: Mike Koller, koller7@gmail.com

Campbell Group (Women Only)

Looking for deeper community with other women?

*Join us on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month at
7:00pm for sharing and prayer. We meet at Carolyn*

Campbell's house (12903 Tundra Court, 63131).

Call Carolyn for more details: 314-607-8410.

FRIDAY

Hiler Group

2nd & 4th Fridays; 7:00pm

Contact: Lois Miller, ephraim06@gmail.com

Theus / Moore Group

Two Fridays a month; 6:00pm

Contact: Nathan Theus, nat5the@hotmail.com

Use the QR code to sign up to receive ministry emails.



Preaching Schedule

April 7

Morning: Titus 1:1-4

Evening: TBD

April 14

Morning: Titus 1:5-8

Evening: TBD

Church Staff

Noah Wiersema, Senior Pastor

Chris Smith, Associate Pastor

John Roberts, Assistant Pastor/Head of School

Kelly Robinson, Director of Children's Ministries

Mary Bell, Director of Women's Ministries
& Community Life

Josh Fikkert, Director of Youth Ministry

Noah Brink, Acting Administrative Director

Laura Andrews, Administrative Assistant

Jamey Brester, Property Manager

Jaclyn Mixell, Hospitality Coordinator

Nancy Walker, Bookkeeper

Session Elders

John Bauer

Matt Brandt

Bill Cahill

John Dawson

Dave Haverdink

Garrett Jacobs

Jeff Klinger

Mike Koller

Dan Legters

Jonathan McCluskey

Alan Norman

Frank Theus

Roland Van Heest

David Yates

Diaconate

RC Balaban

Andy Belval

Jamey Brester

Mike Castle

Kevin Dana

Will Haynes

Casey Jowdy

Jeff Massot

David Moore

Todd Schultz

Nathan Theus

Reed Voorhees

Women's Ministry Leadership

Hospitality – Tricia Creel

Congregational Life – Isabelle Castle

Moms of Littles – Jennie McClelland, Amanda Moore

Bible Studies – Janet Schmidt, Jill Fager

Intern & Communication – Morgan Fikkert

Stephen Ministers

Bill Baber, Claudia Gold, Kathy Jacobs, Debbie Massot, Dan Seibert, Jeff Stillwell, Julie Theus, Amy VanEssendelft



A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

Statement of Faith

We are a member of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), which believes that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God and holds to that system of doctrine summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms.

2143 N. Ballas Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63131

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