



The 2nd Sunday of Easter, 27 April 2025 Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

Easter's celebration is a season of a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we live in the mystery of Christ's presence after His resurrection. Today we gather with the disciples on that first Easter's evening and witness Jesus' patience and compassion. From being mired behind closed doors they are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and sharing such that no one among us is in need. And so can we be!

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!*

A warm welcome whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency, please call the parsonage at 267-362-8129.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We are gathered in the name of the Father, + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In baptism, by water and the Word, God liberates us from sin and death,
joining us to the resurrection life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God's Easter promise be renewed in us
as we proclaim our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

-Silence -

Do you reject the devil and all his empty promises,
renouncing the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I do, by the grace of God, and the power of the resurrection.

Walking with God's people, will you seek His ways,
showing His saving grace by faith-filled word and action?

We will, by the grace of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear the good news: God raised Jesus from the dead so that we might have forgiveness of our sins, and live in faith and hope. By the precious blood of Christ, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven! Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and praise our Father in heaven.

Blessed be God, forever! Alleluia! Amen!

WE SING THE GATHERING HYMN: ELW #382, CHRIST IS RISEN (ON THE NEXT PAGE)



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turns to life once more;
now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
an - gels on his steps at-tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

GREETING

The grace of the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST

Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *Silence- The Prayer of the Day is offered. We join our hearts in silent prayer. It concludes: ... one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Word

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON is from the Acts of the Apostles, the 5th chapter. (Acts 5:27-32)

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.” The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for Reflection

PSALM 118 is read responsively by verse.

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation**

echo in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,**

and declare the works of the Lord.

¹⁸The Lord indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;**

I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.

²⁰“This is the gate of the Lord;
here the righteous may enter.”

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

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the Lord has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O Lord, save us!**

We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷**The Lord is God and has given us light.**

**Form a procession with branches
up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
God’s mercy endures forever. Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

THE SECOND LESSON is from Revelation, the 1st chapter.

(Revelation 1:4-8)

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

SERMON SONG: #364, vs 1 *before the Gospel*

Christ has arisen, alleluia.

Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

**For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

Refrain:

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia!

Jesus is living, alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to John, the 20th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!** (John 20:19-31)

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

RESPONSE:

**"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won."**

Refrain:

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

Please be seated.

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: # 386, v1, 5-8 O SONS AND DAUGHTERS, LET US SING

1 O sons and daughters let us sing with heavenly hosts to God our King
Today the grave hath lost its sting! Alleluia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!

6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!

8 How blest are they that have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!

Please stand at pastor's invitation.

We confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 And born of the virgin Mary;
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again 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.

We come before the God of resurrection and new life, rejoicing that Jesus is risen. Let us pray for the needs of the church and the world to God, who raised Jesus to new life.

*We join our hearts in prayer for one another, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each petition concludes: ...in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** We offer our own prayers aloud or in silence following, people of God, for what else shall we pray? The prayers conclude:*

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

Meal

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the Lord's name, saying "Peace be with you," or a similar greeting. Following the peace, please be seated.

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies.

In-House the offering plate is set by the baptismal font. In house or joining us online tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.



THE OFFERTORY: HYMN #186, "Create in Me"

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
 spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
 your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. *silence* Risen and living Lord,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
Nourish us at this your Table of grace
that we become your witnesses to the world
working for peace and justice so all may know Jesus Christ,
our Savior and risen Lord. Amen.

We join our hearts in silent prayer as the Table is prepared.

THE 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.**

It is our right, our duty, and our great joy to thank and praise You, O God...
...we praise your name and join their unending song:

Holy are you, Lord! Holy are you, God of power and might!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of our God! **Hosanna in the highest!**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, O God, the wellspring of all holiness.
We praise you for the gift of creation, the work of your hands...

...In obedience and thanksgiving, we remember the great and mighty acts of God,
and proclaim the mystery and promise of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Proclaiming all glory and honor is yours through the Holy Spirit, O God, we offer our prayer in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray:

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;
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.

THE AGNUS DEI: JUST AS I AM, #592

Just as I am, without one plea / but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee / O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown / hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea thine alone / O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. Pastor will ask us to take up our communion cup and invite us to commune using these or similar words:

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. We believe the risen Christ is truly present in the forms of bread and wine to forgive, renew and strengthen. All are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please do so at any time after the invitation. The elements are offered with the words: 'The Body of Christ given for you' and 'The Blood of Christ shed for you'. The recipient may respond "Amen"

The musicians and other assistants will be communed first, followed by those online. Then the congregation comes forward by the center aisle, the organ side first, and then the pulpit side. Receive the Host (bread) from Pastor, with the words, 'The body of Christ, given for you.' The assistant offers the chalice of wine for intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine) with the words: 'The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen. Please return to your pew by the side aisle. Anyone, child or adult, who does not wish to take communion is invited to come forward, hands folded, to receive a blessing, or remain seated and commune by prayer.

As the altar is cleared and the chalice vested, there is silence for prayer and reflection. Following communion and the hymn, please stand at Pastor's invitation.

The hymn during communion is #481, Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Risen One,
you gathered at this table of grace.

**Now breathe your life into us and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen!**

Sending

THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN ELW#864, PRAISE MY SOUL



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace, and tell the news that Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion.

"This is the Feast" is from *The Lutheran Book of Worship*, © 1978 Augsburg Fortress, used by permission of A-F license #5429-L. Create in Me, music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress, used by permission, OneLicense #A-71138. The Offertory Prayer is from *Sundays and Seasons*, used by permission Augsburg Fortress, used by permission, OneLicense #A-71138. Hymns: "Christ Has Arisen", text Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 Swahili text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. English text © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission, OneLicense #A-71138. "Come to the Table", Text Claire Cloninger, Martin Nystrom; © 1981 Integrity's Hosanna Music, Used by permission, OneLicense #A-71138

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

353 E. Dark Hollow Rd Pipersville PA 18947
215. 766. 8730

The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor
the people of Christ Church, ministers
Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary
Mr. Brian Maddux, Council President

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen on Facebook Live and Zoom. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to our website (www.christpipersville.org).

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Delana Woodward

WE WELCOME Louise Gerdelmann as our organist this morning and thank her for her musical leadership.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – The prayer list is printed in the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. In addition, please remember Ed Zimmerman (H,R) and Lisa Z (H,R). Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

TODAY is our 5th Sunday offering. In order to help prevent a budget deficit from occurring, members are encouraged to give an extra offering, if you are able.

BLESSINGS BY THE BOX – We will once again be helping 10 local Tinicum Elementary families facing food insecurity over the summer months by supplying them with Giant gift cards. We will be collecting donations through the end of May and gift cards will be distributed at the end of the school year in early June. Last year's families were most appreciative of this assistance. If you would like to help, please place your donations in an envelope and note that it's for Blessings by the Box or pick up a specially marked envelope on the table by the doors. This year we are also including special snack bags for the children. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for details.

LET'S HELP CELEBRATE Corrine Monesmith's 102nd birthday on May 2nd by sending a card. Her mailing address is 146 Cafferty Road, Pipersville, PA 18947.

SPRING BOOK/SOUP/BAKE SALE is scheduled for May 9, 10, 16 & 17. Sign-up sheets for volunteers to provide soup, baked goods and help in the kitchen are posted on the bulletin board. Especially needed are soup and baked goods for the first day of the sale on May 9th. Book donations may be placed on the stage.

THANK YOU! Bev and I wish to thank the congregation for the Easter Gift of goodies. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. May God bless all of you this Easter and each and every day. – Bev and Chuck Maddux

A THANK YOU from Corrine Monesmith for the Easter goodies and a long note is posted on the bulletin board.

The Week of April 27th at a Glance

Sun. 4/27 The 2nd Sunday of Easter
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship
10:30AM Fellowship Period
1:35PM UB Bucks Conference Iron Pigs Game

Mon. 4/28 Happy Anniversary, Pastor Caron and Michael Clement!

Wed. 4/30 11AM Ensemble

Thur. 5/01 8:30AM Morning Prayer; NO Bible Study

Fri. 5/02 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Happy 102nd Birthday, Corrine Monesmith!

Sat. 5/03 Happy Birthday, Genya Hopf!

Sun. 5/04 The 3rd Sunday of Easter
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period
3-5PM Girl Scouts
Parish Hall Reserved