

The 3rd Sunday of Easter, 14 April 2024 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. The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, offering them strength and fellowship. As we gather in this great week of weeks Christ strengthens us through Word and at His own table to serve as witnesses to the resurrection.

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!

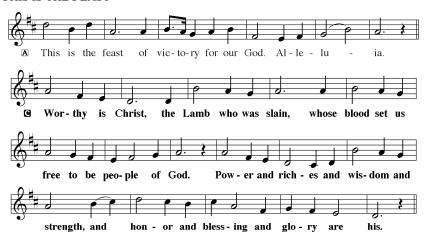
WE SING THE GATHERING HYMN: ELW #367. NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS (NEXT PAGE)

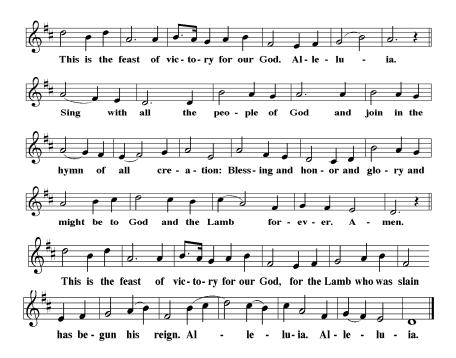


GREETING

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





THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Silence- The Prayer of the Day is offered. We join our hearts in silent prayer. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON is from the Acts of the Apostles, the 3rd chapter. (Acts 3:12-18)

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for Reflection

PSALM 4 is read responsively by verse.

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;

the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure. Amen.

Silence for Reflection

THE SECOND LESSON is from 1 John, 3rd the chapter. (1 John 3:1-7)

¹See what love the Father 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 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 Luke, the 24th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord! (Luke 24:36b-48)

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things." 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."

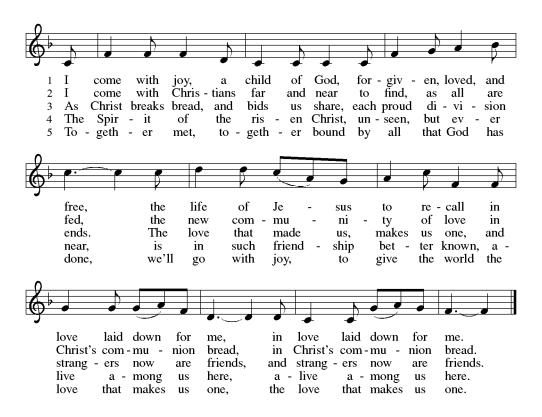
Refrain:

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: #482, I COME WITH JOY (NEXT PAGE)



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.

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all longing for wholeness and peace.

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?

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, bring comfort to those who mourn. In your mercy, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, most 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.

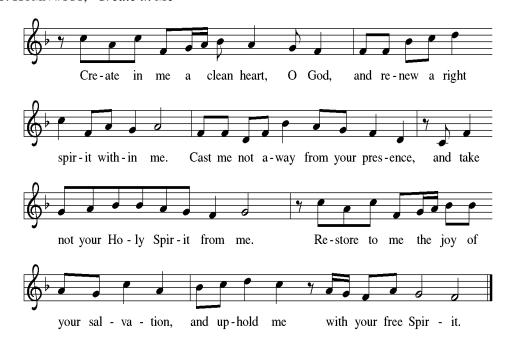
We greet one another in peace saying, "Peace be with you" or similar words with a wave, placing a hand over our hearts, even a little bow in whatever touchless way you choose. Following the peace, please be seated.

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"



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 may be your witnesses to the world working for peace and justice so all may know Jesus Christ, as 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 for the glorious resurrection of our Lord.

By his death he has destroyed death,

and by his rising has brought us to new and eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter,

with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending praise:

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!

EUCHARISTIC 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,

so wondrously formed in holiness and beauty.

When humanity turned away in sin you restored us

by the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

That in forgiveness and joy we might thrive, giving thanks and remembering:

That on the night 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 and 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.

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!

This is the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you!

Take and eat, take and drink!

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

<u>All</u> who believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the forms of bread and wine are invited to commune. You 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 commune at any time after the invitation that you wish.

The musicians will be communed first. 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: Eternal God, living Savior,

All of creation sings for joy at the risen life of Jesus.

Fill our hearts with your power and peace, and send us forth renewed and rejoicing,

living in new life to be a blessing to the world.

through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, we pray. 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 #547, SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING



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.

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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 Mrs. Kim Campbell, 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).

THE APRIL BULLETINS AND WEB SITE are sponsored by Debra Moench in Honor of the Moench and James families.

FELLOWSHIP HOST: The Crons

WE WELCOME Debra Bacak 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. 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.

SPRING BOOK SALE AND BAKE/SOUP/PLANT/RUMMAGE SALE: We will be hosting the Pipersville Library's Spring Book Sale on April 26 & 27 and May 3 & 4 in the parish hall. Donations of books may be placed on the stage. The church will be selling baked goods, soup, plants and rummage items during the book sale. Donations of pre-wrapped baked goods and soup would be appreciated. You may place rummage items (good condition only) in the room by the kitchen. Items that do well at the rummage sale: kitchenware, small/medium décor items, tools, picture frames & artwork, jewelry, kids toys, and craft materials. Please NO large furniture, TV's/monitors or large appliances.

Volunteers will also be needed to staff the kitchen & rummage room during the sale. Contact Kathy Brown (267-370-2765) with any questions or see the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board to volunteer to help during the sale.

ATTENTION GARDENERS! The Spring book/bake/soup/rummage sale is at the beginning of the spring planting season and it would be great to sell plants there! Anything from plant cuttings, propagations, veggie/herb starter plants, indoor houseplants, anything that can grow, let's sell it! We can have some people scheduled to bring weekend 1 and another group weekend 2!

LUTHERAN DAY WITH THE IRON PIGS: The Upper Bucks Lutheran Conference is planning an outing to the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs on Sunday, June 23rd, 1:35PM game. Tickets are \$30 each and include an all you can eat buffet and unlimited soft drinks. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Order/Payment deadline is April 28th. Please place checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church in envelope marked "Iron Pigs".

BLESSINGS BY THE BOX – We will once again be helping local Tinicum Elementary families facing food insecurity over the summer months by supplying them with Giant gift cards. If you would like to help, please place your donations in an envelope and note that it's for Blessings by the Box. 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 to 9 families. Last year's families were most appreciative of this assistance.

FELLOWSHIP PERIOD hosts are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

BULLETIN/WEB SITE SPONSORS: You may sponsor the Sunday bulletin or the church website in honor or memory of a loved one and we'll list your gift in the bulletin as well as social media and our website. The requested donation is \$20/week for the bulletin and \$25/month for the website. There are sponsorship envelopes and a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for your convenience.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: A volunteer is needed each week to collect the trash and place it in the trash cart after worship. A sign-up sheet with instructions is posted on the bulletin board. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also needed to fill the candles, turn off fans/lights, turn down heat and change the hymn board...see Pastor Caron or Kim Campbell with any questions or to volunteer.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Drivers are needed for the Tinicum area on a regular basis as well as substitute drivers. Please call 215-345-6065 if you are able to deliver meals one or more times a month at lunch time.

LECTORS: Volunteers would be appreciated to read the lessons each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board & copies of the lessons are available at least a week in advance.

DID YOU KNOW...Many Thrivent policy holders are eligible to designate "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to a charity of their choice. Christ Lutheran Church is one of those options. We received \$1,989.00 through this program in 2023 and \$751.00 to date in 2024.

GIANT GIFT CARDS can be purchased after worship (see Cindy Carper or Kim Szymanowski) or during the week from the church office. Gift cards are available in \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 & \$100 denominations. Checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. (*Gift cards may not be used to purchase other gift cards.*) Giant gives 5% back to the church for every card purchased. We raised \$2,400 in 2023 and \$700 to date in 2024.

THE LORD'S PANTRY has a continuing need for donations. During the month of April we are collecting canned fruit and baby food, but all types of canned/dry goods are welcome (peanut butter, tuna, condiments, etc.). Donations may be placed in the pantry cabinet by the parking lot doors or contact the church office to make drop off arrangements. You may also purchase Giant gift cards to be provided to The Lord's Pantry.

TABOR HOME SUPPORT – We have an ongoing collection of diapers (any size, except newborn) for Tabor Home. Diapers may be placed under the coat rack and will be delivered periodically to Tabor Home.

SIMPLY GIVING is a program that enables you to financially support our ministry easily, securely and faithfully. You choose the amount and the schedule: weekly, bimonthly, or monthly. You can easily change the amount or timing. You can be a blessing! Contact the church office with any questions.

The Week of April 14th at a Glance

Sun. 4/14	The Third Sunday of Easter
	9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
	10:30AM Fellowship Period
	3-5PM Girl Scouts
Mon. 4/15	Confirmation Class
Wed. 4/17	11:00AM Ensemble Rehearsal
Thur. 4/18	8:30AM Morning Prayer; 9:00AM Bible Study
Fri. 4/19	Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
	Happy Birthday, Carol Hafler!
Sun. 4/21	The Fourth Sunday of Easter
	9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
	10:30AM Fellowship Period
	Parish Hall Reserved (Books being moved for book sale)
	Happy Birthday, Lauren Evans!