

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021

In Christian tradition, Easter is not just a single day. It is at least a season - often called "Eastertide"- that stretches from the day itself to Pentecost Sunday some 50 days later. In an even deeper sense, every Sunday is a "little Easter" remembering and celebrating the core Christian affirmation of God's triumph of life over death. Indeed, in the very early days of the church, the regular time of Christian worship moved from the Sabbath of Jewish tradition to Sunday, at first in the evening as Sunday was a universal workday.

PRELUDE "Spirit of God" F. Atkinson, Arr. L. Smith
Dr. Brenda Clark

WELCOME Rev. Rachel Vione

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Giving Blood* Deacon Tiffany Thomas

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) *from Psalm 19*

Sing to God a new song,
for God has done marvelous things!
Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth,
for God is still doing marvelous things!
Break into joyful song!
Sing praises with lyre and melody and trumpets!
Sing to God a new song!
Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 248 "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" HYMN TO JOY

1 *Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.*

2 *Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.*

3 *Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Good Shepherd God, we confess that we are in danger of becoming a tearless people. On some days, we imitate a smiling society and gloss over the hurt, the oppression, and the chaos of this earth. At other times, we become caustic, cynical, or despairing. Truth be told, we are in danger of being a blind hearted people. But have we not seen? Have we not heard?

**You, O Lord, are the everlasting God,
our Creator to the ends of the earth.
And you have created us for covenant keeping.
You have created us for resurrection spotting.
You have created us to live your Easter good news
with everything we've got. So forgive us.
Forgive us and help us live as a people shaped by
your voice, your hope, and your reign.
Give us whatever courage we need to step out and follow. We pray in the name of our risen
Savior.**

Silent prayers of confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Hymn No. 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

Elder Cathy Coleman

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 23

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 10:11–18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Listen to the Voice”

Rev. Rachel Vione

OFFERING

please give online at www.fpcnorthport.org

ANTHEM

“My Eternal King”

J. Marshall

Andrew Warren, Ariana Warren, Dana Warren & Marie Michalopoulos-Warren

*DOXOLOGY

The Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. y kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 299

“You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

HANOVER

*1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ’s wonderful name.*

The name all victorious of Jesus extol,

whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.

*2 Ascended on high, almighty to save,
he still remains nigh; his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.*

*3 "Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.*

*4 Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessings, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Easter Chant"

G. Young

The Call to Worship is from *Fire and Bread: Resources from Easter Day to Trinity Sunday*, Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community, Scotland. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from a poem by Ann Weems entitled "In Search of New Resurrections" in *Kneeling* in Jerusalem.

Please pray for members and friends of our congregation

For all those who are suffering as a result of the coronavirus, essential employees who go to work so we can be safe and healthy, for those who are working to bring the vaccine, Joyce Schorn (Alan Schorn's mother), Gayle Latchford, Beto Ortiz (Lisa Huntley's son), Todd Dobert (friend of Sue & Eddy Ebert), Howard Heckman, Jr. (Diane Lobaugh's cousin), Charlotte Tippie (Leah & Jack Fink's granddaughter), John Bailey (David Dickman's cousin), Carol & Tom Dwyer (friends of Diana Montusi), Richard Huntley, Christopher Winkler (Joe & Nancy's son), Justin Yoskowitz, Lou Schmidt, Aaron Thomas, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), Charlene Cosman, **those in Healthcare facilities** – Whispering Woods of Smithtown: Art Shaw, Sunrise Senior Living: Joan DeNigris, Atria: Ann Deery, **for the family of:** Jessie Shaw, **our partner congregations:** Nueva Paz, Cuba and Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, Malverne; the Presbytery of Long Island and its staff; the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (USA), its Louisville staff, its missionaries worldwide

Thank you to Joe & Nancy Winkler and Kevin McKerr for making this service possible

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