



Caravaggio

Service of the Lord's Day Sunday, April 11, 2021

God's People Gather

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the House of the Lord!" (Psalm 122:1)

With glad hearts, we welcome you to worship among this community of believers! The decorated tubes in the pews are guides to assist us in caring for one another by maintaining safe distances. You may move the tubes in either direction in the pew to accommodate your "household." We invite you to hum the hymns or meditate on the words as the Sanctuary Singers sing on our behalf.

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer of Preparation

O Living Lord, as the risen Christ came to the disciples, come to us now by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we, who have not yet seen, may yet believe and worship you in reverence and awe. Amen.

Prelude Come, Thou Fount – arr. Martin

*Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!

All: **Christ is risen indeed!**

One: Let us celebrate God wherever we are sheltering! Alleluia!

All: **Celebrate God in all places under heaven!**

One: Give praise for God's mighty deeds!

All: **Give praise for God's resurrecting power! Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

*Hymn The Strife is O'er (verses 1, 2, and 4 - Refrain before stanza 1 and after stanza 4)

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed: let shouts of

holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live, and sing to thee: Alleluia! (*Refrain*)

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus Christ from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that often we have not acknowledged Christ's rule in our lives. Too often we have conformed to the ways of the world rather than be transformed by you. Forgive us when our words, deeds, and lives together fail to witness to your love, grace, and power.

(silent confession)

Forgive us and transform us so that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ and following in his footsteps. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news!

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

L: Jesus says "Behold, I am making all things new."

*Response

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

God's Word is Heard

Time With Children

Anthem Alleluia – Kerr

Chancel Handbell Choir

Scripture Reading John 20:19-31

Sermon

Rev. Karen Pidcock-Lester

God's People Respond

*Affirmation of Faith

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

(1 Corinthians 15)

*Giving Our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication

Doxology

From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung, through every land, in every tongue, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you;

And also with you...

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

God's Sends Us Out

***Hymn This is the Glory** (verses 1 and 2)

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
(Refrain)

***Blessing**

***Postlude Finale from Concerto No. 5 – Handel**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Please leave the sanctuary by the side aisles and both doors; the deacons will guide you.

*Our sanctuary singers and musicians this morning are Shaaron Guinther, Gayle Hall, and Sarah Pinard.
FPC Chancel Handbells: Natalia Bradley, Katie DeNicco, Marguerite Detwiler, Tim Detwiler, Gayle Hall*, Andy Hazeltine, Laura Hazeltine, Julie Kovach, Sue Moyer, Sarah Pinard, Brent Stark, Susan Stark, Rob Wade. (*Bell Substitute). Thank you!*

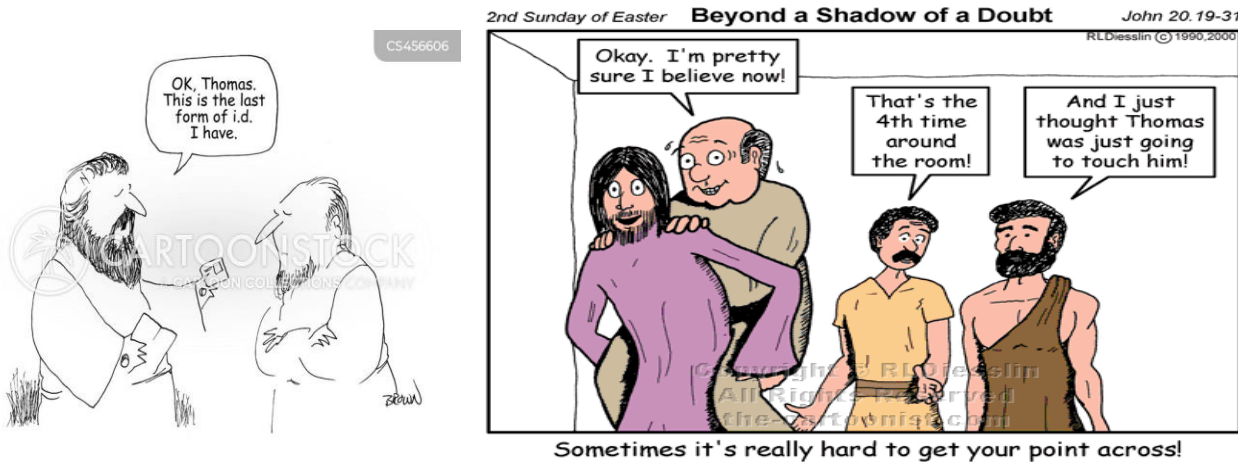
The sanctuary flowers are given by Tom and Peg Calvario in loving memory of their daughter, Jodi.

Calendar of events for this week:

Today	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Incoming Officers Training (Fellowship Hall)
	4:15 p.m.	Seeking Balance: Fairness in Education Funding via Zoom
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Yoga
	10:00 a.m.	Staff meetings (Community Room)
	2:00 p.m.	Blood Drive (2-7pm)
	7:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
	7:30 p.m.	Bible Study via Zoom
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Yoga
	4:00 p.m.	Musicless Rec
	7:30 p.m.	Deacons
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Sisters of the Way Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 p.m.	Community Meals (lower parking lot)
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
	6:15 p.m.	Treble Handbells Rehearsal
	6:45 p.m.	Chancel Handbells Rehearsal

Friday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Yoga
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Cubs Pinewood Derby Workshop (9am-12pm)
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship/Seekers

It's Holy Laughter Sunday – Enjoy!



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Rev. W. Carter Lester, Jr. & Rev. Karen Pidcock-Lester, Co-Pastors
 Jaylee Ferreri, Director for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
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 Dawn Skelly, Parish Nurse
 Jo Ann Bathurst, Children's Choir Director
 Marie Kayati, Administrative Assistant – Thomas Spitko, Sexton
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 Check out the church's website www.fpcpottstown.org
 Sermons are available.
 "Like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Instagram and Twitter.