

*Welcome to
St. Peter's Pikeland
United Church of Christ*

1193 Clover Mill Road
Chester Springs, Pennsylvania 19425
610.933.6419



Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025
8:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE "Risen Is the Holy Christ" arr Saxton

COMING OF THE LIGHT

*Please use this time for silent meditation before worship.
During the service, the people will make the responses
in the **bold print**.*

GATHERING

Praise God, who brings life out of death and hope out of despair.

Praise God, who has raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

Sing, O heaven, and be joyful, O earth.

For God has comforted the people.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

ALL: Alleluia!

HYMN 233 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

All who are able may stand for the hymn and prayers that follow.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Easter morning takes us by surprise, with heaven’s light revealing our doubts and sins. Let us now humbly turn to our forgiving God with the prayer of confession:

In the bright light of Easter morning, our sin is exposed, but your grace is revealed. Tender God, we humbly and gratefully come before you and ask you to forgive us. Help us to leave behind our foolish doubt, so that with joy we may witness to your awesome deeds in Jesus the Risen One. Amen.

Hear the Good News. In the name of Jesus, all things are made new. Our sins are forgiven. Doubt no more, for Christ is with us always. Alleluia! Praise be to God. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of all life, and conqueror of death, we thank you for your Holy Scripture that calls on us to believe and hope in your wonderful, even miraculous ways. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Gentiles Hear the Good News

Acts 10:34-43

Pew Bibles, Page 129

A LESSON FROM PSALM 118:14-17, 19-24

We will read the psalm responsively,

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

**There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the
righteous: “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;**

the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

**I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

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

This is the Lord’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

A LESSON FROM THE GOSPELS

The Resurrection of Jesus

John 20:1-18

Pew Bibles, Page 114

EASTER MESSAGE

Pastor Doug Hanson

HYMN 245

“The Day of Resurrection”

After the Hymn, please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Morning Has Broken”

arr Choplin

PRESENTATION

*All may stand as the offering is presented
and remain standing for the prayer that follows.*

SONG OF PRAISE 780

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of the Resurrection promise, we offer our gifts to the work
of the church, proclaiming the Good News of a loving Savior
for all the world. Accept our gifts, we pray, for the sake of all
who seek new life and life eternal. Amen.**

Please be seated

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

You who come to me shall not hunger;
you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**In company with all who hunger for spiritual food,
we come to this table to know the risen Christ
in the sharing of this life-giving bread.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing
and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your
constant love for all you have made.

We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith
in every generation who have given themselves to your
will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent
from your own being as our Savior.

We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and
resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church
for its mission in the world.

Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer
ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire
family of your faithful people everywhere:

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,
the whole universe speaks of your glory,
O God Most High.**

**Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith,
we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ.

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread,
and blessed, and broke it,
and gave it to the disciples and said:

“Take, eat: This is my body.”

Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks,
gave it to the disciples and said:

“Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood
of the covenant, which is poured out for many
for the forgiveness of sins.”

Let us say boldly what we believe:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread, and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table,
that our eyes may be opened,
and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst,
in each other, and in all for whom Christ died. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father, who art in heaven... (*Use debts . . . debtors*)

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come, for all things are ready.

*The ushers will invite you to come forward for Communion.
Visitors are welcome to come forward.*

*It is our custom to take the bread individually,
and the cup together at the Pastor's signal.*

After receiving, the Pastor will dismiss you with a blessing.

*Use side aisles to return to your seat.
Place cups in one of the baskets provided.*

*We use wine, water, and white grape juice
in our celebration of Holy Communion.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us at your table
by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.
Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world in courage and peace,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

HYMN 242

“The Strife is O’er”

All who are able may stand for the hymn and blessing that follows.

BENEDICTION

After the Blessing, all may be seated until the postlude begins.

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” arr Hopson



TODAY’S WORSHIP

THE MESSAGE is brought to us by Pastor Doug Hanson

THE ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR is Kat Bowman

THE USHER today is Maureen Wookey

THE LECTOR today is Maureen Wookey

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Our Prayer List

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Andrea Lafleur
Angie Schlessm
Ann Kieffer, cousin of Eric Johnson
Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths
Barbara Shivers
Bill Cochran, friend of Fred and Maureen Wookey
Carol Meyer
Cole Davenport
Connie Hershey, friend of Micki and Alyssa Menkins
Charlie Fishman, Pete Warner's Nephew and Godson
Charles and Virginia Garber
Danielle Smith, friend of Sara Hackman
David Richman, friend of Grace Merryman
Debbie Rittenhouse, mother-in-law of Mitchell Warner
Diane, friend of Dee McClimon
Dr. Michael J. Ward
Ernie Gross, cousin of Fred Wookey
Gayanne Loring, sister of Dawna DeRosa
Gwen Davidson
Heather Murphy, cousin of Steve Krasley
Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin
Hugh Lawson
Jamie Glennon, friend of Eric Hanson
Jason Cox, cousin of Kelly Martini
Jeff Johnson, Co-worker of Eric Johnson
Jennifer Osborne
Jessica G., friend of Grace Merryman
Jim Smith, Denise Harlow's brother
John Pandjak
John Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman
Laura Dick
Laura S., friend of Grace Merryman
Lisa, cousin of Eric Johnson
Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys
Melinda Greenwood, cousin of Joe Thomson
Patrick, friend of Dee McClimon
Richard, friend of Dee McClimon
Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister
Sandy Pereni, Joyce Rosen's sister
Sharon Basile, Jennifer Basile's mother-in-law
Sylvia Houff, Kathleen Wachsmuth's sister
Tara Cantello, friend of Denise Harlow
Tina Frick, friend of Sarah Hackman
Tracey Knox, cousin of Kathy Krasley