

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

1193 Clover Mill Road
Chester Springs, Pennsylvania 19425
610.933.6419



*Fifth Sunday in
Lent*

April 6, 2025
10 a.m.

WELCOME AND JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE “What a Friend We Have In Jesus” arr Cherwien

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

There is Good News to be found here this day. Let us gather in the name of Jesus, the head of the church.

Come, holy Jesus. Be with us in Word and Spirit.

Heaven's grace is offered to all who turn to God and believe.

We would know ourselves in you, O God, for you are the potter and we are the clay.

Let us keep our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Praise be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

HYMN 52 "There Is a Name I Love to Hear"

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

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

If we claim righteousness for ourselves, or if we would present ourselves as harmless, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sins and our need for God's saving grace:

Holy One, we confess that the words and wisdom and love of our faith don't land easily in our harsh and judging world. Help us to bring your Good News into our lives and into our world; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Leave your burdens at the feet of Jesus and find rest. Hold on to the cross and find strength. Our Savior knows of the struggle; he came to us because of it, and he continues to reach out to all who would receive him. Praise be to God. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy One, may your scripture deepen our faith and open our hearts, minds and spirits to you. We pray that your loving wisdom will find a home in all that we say and do.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

A New Thing

Isaiah 43:16-21

Pew Bibles, Page 672

A LESSON FROM PSALM 126

We will read the psalm responsively,

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'**

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

**Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves."**

GOSPEL LESSON

Mary Anoints Jesus

John 12:1-8

Pew Bibles, Page 106

SERMON

Pastor Doug Hanson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from a New Zealand Prayer Book)
*All who are able may stand for the affirmation
and hymn that follows*

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God.
We worship you. Amen.**

HYMN 330 “Let Us Break Bread Together”
After the Hymn, please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “What Wondrous Love Is This?” arr Sinclair

PRESENTATION

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

**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

O God, we offer our gifts and ourselves this day in response to your blessings of new life, true life, and life eternal. Bless our gifts, we pray; in Jesus' name. 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 208 "God Loved the World"

BENEDICTION

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

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE "Healer of Our Every Ill" Honoré

TODAY'S WORSHIP

THE MESSAGE is brought to us by Pastor Doug Hanson

THE ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR is Kat Bowman

THE LECTOR today is Kathleen Wachsmuth

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Dee McClimon in memory of her mom, Rosemary Pintowski

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by the Bowmans to the glory of God in honor of Ray Perry and Christine Bowman's birthdays.

THE SOCIAL HOUR today is hosted by Barb McCabe and Micki Menkins

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS: Today is the last day to place your Easter Flower orders.

FISHERMAN'S BREAKFAST: Join us next Sunday, April 13 for our annual pancake breakfast that supports Habitat for Humanity. This breakfast starts at 7:45 am. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, orange juice and fruit will be served. A monetary donation will be graciously accepted at the door.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Invite all your friends, family and neighbors with kids! This annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt is always a big hit! The hunt will take place immediately after worship service on Palm Sunday, April 13.

SIGN UPS: Please take a look at the Sign Up sheets in Fellowship Hall to see what Sundays you may be able to help out with worship needs. Sign ups are posted through August. Thank you!

You can now give to the church more easily by scanning the QR code here:
All online giving will be designated on your giving statements. Thank you!



HEIFER: The Heifer Fair held March 30, 2025 has raised \$9,406 so far for Heifer Project International, fighting to stop world hunger.

We are very close to raising two ARKS for 2025.

Each \$5,000 gift is deemed an "Ark" because it ensures animals and training for an entire community!

This is the 27th year that the congregation will have contributed at least one ark. Really an amazing record of support and success!

If you still want to donate to Heifer it is not too late, please make your check payable to St Peter's and be sure your check has Heifer on the memo line so it can be properly credited.

Thank you for your wonderful support of Heifer Project International and all the mission teams at St Peter's.



Holy Week Schedule

April 13: Palm Sunday; Fisherman's Breakfast;
Easter Egg Hunt

April 17: Holy Week Communion Service 7:30pm

April 20: Easter; 8am Communion service;
10am family service

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
Gwen Davidson
Heather Murphy, cousin of Steve Krasley
Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin
Hugh Lawson
Jamie Glennon, friend of Eric Hanson
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



Holy Week

One License Licensing Permission:
Reprinted with permission under
One License #A-741871. All rights reserved

