

April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

THEME: Stories That Matter - Unless I See

10:15 AM Worship

Supply Pastor: The Rev. Skylle Rea

Descriptor for front of bulletin:

The season of Easter, or Eastertide, is a time of embracing the promise and hope of Resurrection. It is a time of leaning into the stories that matter. Come and gather around the stories of those who wrestled with the Easter event and some of the words of preparation that Jesus gave to help us live the reality of eternity now. It is clear from these stories that Jesus wanted to equip us to thrive in a season of Easter promise. Thomas reminds us that the power of Resurrection is inseparable from its reality. This service invites worshipers to engage all their senses—sight, sound, touch, taste—to notice Christ’s risen presence among us and within us.

Graphic for bulletin:



+ GATHERING +

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE    Come, Christians, join to sing - Sondra K. Tucker

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Christ *is* risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up:

How do we know? What's the proof? Is resurrection real?

**Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

**Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

HYMN ELW 363 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (verses 1 and 3)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's  
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -  
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes  
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,  
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to  
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we  
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.  
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.  
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the risen Jesus, we praise you for the great love that you have shown to redeem us by sending your Son, Jesus. Help us today to embrace the New Life that the resurrected Christ is giving us. A Life beyond our doubts, faith over fear, courage over confusion, belief over disbelief, and trust to follow your guidance. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of resurrected Jesus in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose. Amen.

+ WORD +

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*At the conclusion of the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

READING: I Peter 1:3-9

*At the conclusion of the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious



from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

*At the beginning of the reading:*

The holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the conclusion of the reading:*  
This is the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Skylе Rea

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 635 We Walk by Faith

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

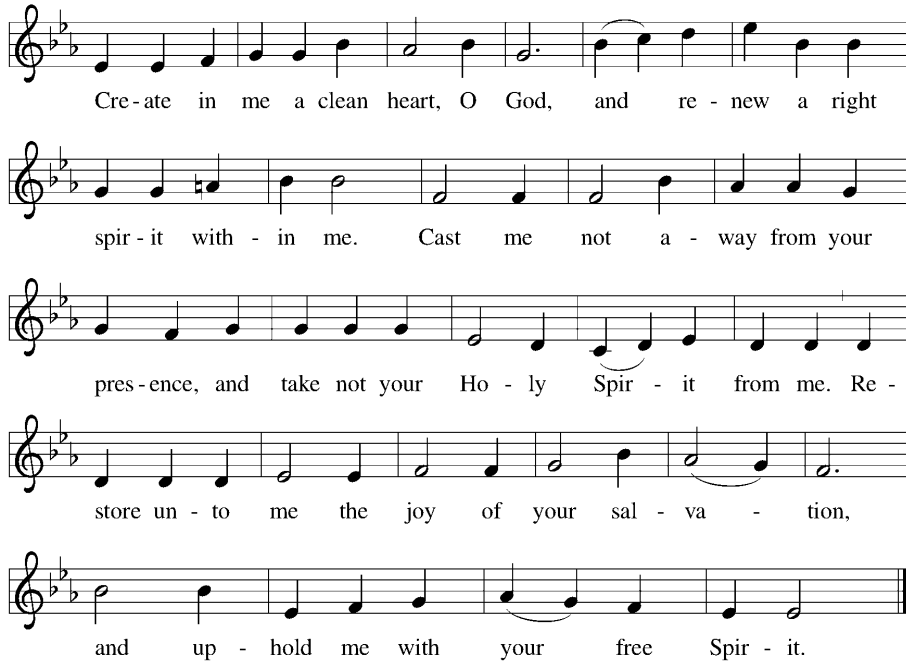
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING      The Lily of the Valley - setting by Mark Hayes  
Chase Wieber, piano

## OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by your grace, you call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept now these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. Let our giving testify to your Resurrection power and shape us into a community where wounds are not hidden but held with love. In Christ, who breathes peace upon us, we pray. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each prayer petition will end with the phrase:*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

+ SENDING +

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

May God bless you with open hearts to recognize the resurrected Christ in our midst and with the courage to reach out and touch the wounds of our neighbors, believing that we will find resurrection in the meeting of our vulnerability.

In the name of God,  
Father, Son and Spirit.

**Amen**

SENDING HYMN ELW 376 Thine Is the Glory

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Sortie on "St. Kevin" - Lani Smith

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### PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Bob Moran, Leonard Gibeon, David Mounts, Steve Keyser, Andrew Breuninger, Renee Fels, Rebecca Jellen, Richard Ditzler, Joy Miller, Alyson Harvey, Audrey Sell, Marie Wolfe, Erik Ockenlaender, Mary Eberle, Brandon Blanchard, Gladys Kazalonis, Elizabeth Brossett and family, Paige Seasock, Tanner Antalosky, Will Morgan, Richard Mitchell, David Wargo, Kate Umstead, Barry Long, Jim Martin, Mike Wolf, David Tregae, Bob Schanely and Michael Svanson.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

Monday, April 13	7pm Great Songs of Faith rehearsal 7:30pm Council meeting
Wednesday, April 15	7pm Confirmation Learning
Thursday, April 16	10am Card Crew 5-6pm Hoagie order pick ups
Sunday, April 19	9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship 4pm Great Songs of Faith concert

Pick up your April hoagies on Thursday, April 16th between 5 & 6pm.

Order your May Heavenly Helper Hoagie for this season by Sunday, May 10th. All Hoagies are \$10. Sign up outside of PB's office or contact Elaine Keller at [elaineakeller@comcast.net](mailto:elaineakeller@comcast.net) or call 215-262-5366

**Family Bathroom** We are adding a family bathroom to meet the needs of some of our members. It's a big job. I believe the job itself has been blessed. The architect provided our plan pro bono. The supplier of most of the fixtures for the bathroom has discounted their products in exchange for some advertising opportunities. They even donated the sink! It's still an expensive project. We are in search of grants. Grants aren't easy. But, we're doing our best. If you know of one that might help us please let the office or a Church Council member know. In the meantime, if you feel it in your heart, we have a designated fund for donations. As you know, many hands make the lift easier! Just write "Family Bathroom" on an envelope. Thank You!

**Sunday Morning Coffee Bar-** Join us at the coffee bar at the back entrance for coffee, hot tea, breakfast treats and conversation starting at 8:30AM.

Volunteers are needed to cover the coffee bar each week - which means set up, bring treats to share and clean up. The sign up sheet is available outside Pastor Becky's office - please sign up to help!

A graveside service for **Louise Wetzel Clare** will be held on Friday May 15 at 12:00 noon at Flohr's Lutheran Church Cemetery, 590 Old Route 30, McKnightstown PA 17343. A time of fellowship and memory sharing will follow. Please keep Louise's son, Hank Clare, and family in your prayers in the weeks to come. Condolences may be sent to Hank Clare, P.O. Box 169, 1069 Church Road, Sumneytown, PA 18084

**Fred and Judy Ockenlaender** will celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary on April 16. Cards to shower them with congratulations can be sent to Fred and Judy Ockenlaender, 2830 Burton Road, Harleysville, PA 19438

## **A BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY AWAITS**

In a quiet monastery,  
silence is broken...

### **THE NEXT BOOK GROUP GATHERING**

Join us as we explore  
The Beautiful Mystery by Louise Penny.  
All are welcome!

Saturday, April 25 at 9:30 AM  
St. John's Lutheran Church, Sumneytown  
Light breakfast served.