

**April 28, 2019 8:30 & 10:45**

**The Second Sunday of Easter**

On Easter Sunday, we were challenged to think of the resurrection of Jesus not as an historical event to be memorialized, but as the inspiration for a new way of living. It is not so much an event to “look at” as one to “look through” – the lens through which we see the rest of life.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music** 8:30 **Hymnal 304 Easter people, raise your voices** (seated) *Regent Square*

**Hymnal 313 Christ is risen** (stanzas 1-2) *Central*

 10:45 Osse Shalom *arranged by Susan T. Nelson* Chapel Bells

**Greeting**

Leader: Praise the Lord from heaven!
    Praise God on the heights!

**People: Let us praise the name of the Lord,
    who alone is exalted;
    whose name is above earth and heaven.**

*Psalm 148:1, 13*

**Announcements**

10:45 **Introit** *Karle Erickson*

 Alleluia! Our Savior Jesus Christ has abolished death

 and brought life and immortality through the Gospel. Alleluia!

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**Call to Worship** (standing)

Leader: The day has dawned.

**People: Sing a new song!**

Leader: Christ is alive.

**People: Rejoice in new life!**

Leader: With receptive hearts and Easter faith,

**People: come to worship God!**

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal** **326 The head that once was crowned** (standing) *St. Magnus*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison)

**Feed us with your word, O God. As sheep in your own fold, enable us to tend to the needs of others. With new perspectives, and a vision of your presence, refresh our hearts this day. Be present in our midst that we night hear your voice and respond to your call. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3124 How shall I come before the Lord** (stanza 3)*O Waly Waly*

**Let justice shine in all your ways. Let loving kindness rule your days,**

 **that, as this earthly path you trod, you shall walk humbly with your God.**

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**… TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**Sacrament of Baptism (10:45)** p. 39

*Jacqueline Renee Noel Henrickson,*

*daughter of David & Ashley Henrickson*

***Congregational Response:***

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life

and include *Jacqueline Renee Noel*  now before you in your care?

**People: With God's help we will proclaim the good news
     and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround** *Jacqueline Renee Noel* **with a community of love and forgiveness,
     that she may grow in her service to others.**

**We will pray for her,
     that she may be a true disciple,**

 **who walks in the way that leads to life.**

**The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

 Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
 People: And also with you.

Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

 This, this is where children belong,

 welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

 Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:

 This is where children belong.

 words and music: James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

**Message for Young Disciples** Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

All children are invited. Please sing as children come forward. After the children’s message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 - 3rd grade may attend **Kids Praise** in the Welcome Center. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the Sanctuary near the end of the service.

10:45 **Handbell Anthem** The Empty Tomb *arranged by John A. Behnke*

Promise Bells; Jim Lutz, narrator

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Judi Phelps 10:45 Dovey Alexander

**A Lesson from the New Testament**

 Revelation 1:4-8 I am the Alpha and Omega

**Response**

 Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

 **People: Thanks be to God**.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

 **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. Amen.**

**Good News Acclamation:** (standing) *James J. Chepponis*

10:45 cantor sings first: **Alleluia.** (sing 4 times)

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospel

 John 20:19-31 Jesus appears to the disciples

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**… TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES …**

10:45 **Offertory Anthem** *French Carol, arranged by John Karl Hirten*

 1. Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain:

 love lives again, that with the dead has been: love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

 2. In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that never he would wake again,

 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

 3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain;

 quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen; love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

 4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again,

 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

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**Hymnal 94 Doxology** (standing) *Lasst uns erfreuen*

 Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

 Praise God the source of all our gifts!

 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “Eyewitness News” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

 **… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymnal** **313 Christ is risen** (stanzas 1-2, standing) *Central*

**Benediction**

**Hymnal** **313 Christ is risen** (stanza 3, standing) *Central*

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers in the Chancel** are given in celebration of the life of Martina Bruckner who passed away recently. Martina was the wife of Lutz Bruckner, the former pastor of Zwickau Methodist Church, our partner church.

**The flowers on the altar** are given in celebration of Don Langston’s birthday this past week. Don is an inspirational leader to the many volunteers and recipients of The Food Lift, its Free Market and outreach events. He is a loving grandfather, father and partner.

**The flowers in the narthex** are given by Linda Nixon in loving memory of her husband, Bud Nixon

**Greeters 8:30** Judy Phelps **10:45**  Jane Casey

**Acolytes** Emily Shoff and Addison Alexander

**Special music for the 10:45** service is provided by the Chapel Bells and the Promise Bells, directed by Nancy R. Lutz; and the Chancel Choir with Alyssa Pysola, flute, whose presence is made possible through contributions to the Friends of Music Fund. New contributors are most welcome. Make a check to the church and note "Friends of Music Fund."

**Worship options for children** We encourage children to participate in the **Children’s Sermon** at both services, and in **Kids Praise** during the 10:45 service. **Nursery services** are offered in Room 204 of the Education Building. Ask ushers or greeters and follow signs for direction.

**Honor or remember a loved one with a flower donation.** The flowers that grace the sanctuary each week are generously donated by our church family members. This is a great way to honor or memorialize a special person, event, or milestone in your personal life or in the life of the church. If you are interested in donating flowers on a particular Sunday, contact Lizzie Diller , 412-860-3614. The cost is $33 for the altar, narthex, or columbarium arrangements, and $66 for the chancel flowers.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Revelation 1:4-8**

4John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 7Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 8“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

**John 20:19-31**

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” 24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.25So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 27Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” 28Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Podcasts of Sunday Sermons**  Catch up on messages from MLUMC with a podcast of Pastor Tom’s and others’ Sunday sermons. Sermons can be found at http://mlumc.buzzsprout.com or navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org). Sermons also will be posted to iTunes. Full recordings of the service are available upon request.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Isabella (Langston) Fields,

 St. Alphonsus Medical Center, Boise

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

**Convalescing at Home**

Bishop George Bashore, Jean Boyer,

Mary Caldwell, John Dean,

Joseph Festor, Leon Grant, Jr., Dave Lewis

Susan Lichtenfels, George Lindow,

Stephanie Lowe, Sara Mercer,

Jinny Sheppard, Ruth Seip,

Carol Van Sickle

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown,

**Maj. Zachary Allen Finch, USMC,**James Iantelli, 1st Lt. Jaskiewicz,
S. Sgt. Keith Kimmell,

Sgt. Brendan Lamport,
Sgt. Matthew McConahan, Thomas Orda,
David Poncel, Sgt. Steven Reitz,
Capt. Scott B. Rushe, Pastor Rick Townes,
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller,

Maj. Matthew C. Wesmiller,
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski,

Sgt Michael Zimmerman

**Thank You**

Many thanks to you all for your prayers and messages during the time when, for a while, “I could have been better.”

You were a big help!

Love, joy and peace,

David Watson

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, APRIL 28 THRU SATURDAY, MAY 4**

**SUNDAY 4/28**

 8 am – 3 pm Health kit Service Project Asbury
8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel
9:30 am Children’s Choir Sings Welcome Center
9:30 am  Sunday School for All Ages Various
10:45 am Worship Sanctuary
10:45 am Kids Praise Welcome Center
11:50 am Youth Choir Choir Room
5 pm Youth Group Asbury
7 pm Do No Harm Welcome Center
7 pm Troop 23 Leadership Meeting Wesley

**MONDAY 4/29**

 **6** pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Asbury

**TUESDAY 4/30**

 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 5/1**

 7:30 am Northside Lunch Prep Asbury Kitchen

**THURSDAY 5/2**

8:30 am Northside Lunch Prep Asbury Kitchen

 9 am Hearts and Hands Epworth

 12 pm Berries ‘n’ Bells Rehearsal Asbury

 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 5/3**

 7:30 pm Berries ‘n’ Bells Asbury

**SATURDAY 5/4**

 10 am New Member Orientation Welcome Center