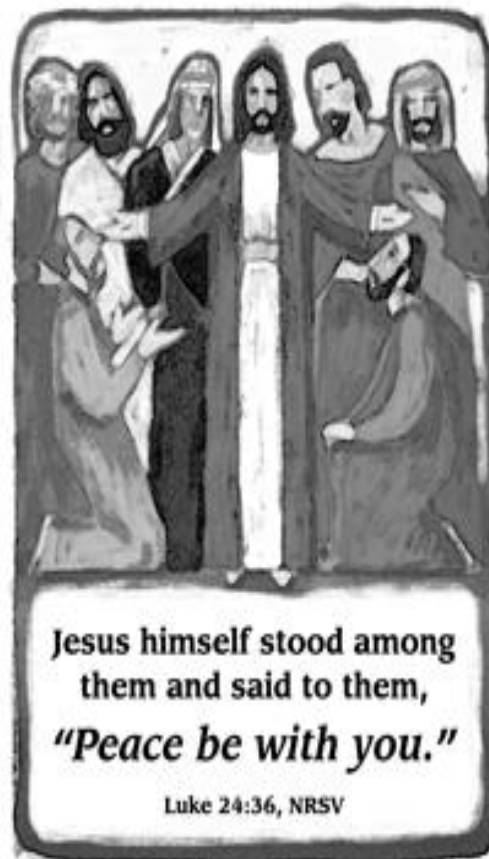


**April 14, 2024**  
**9:30am Worship Service**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**



**CEDAR CHURCH**

**A Union Church since 1855**

3419 Broadway

Allentown, PA 18104

610-395-6332

Email: [cedarchurch@ptd.net](mailto:cedarchurch@ptd.net)

[www.cedarunionchurch.com](http://www.cedarunionchurch.com)

*Our Mission*

*Cedar Church extends a hand of welcome to all of God's children seeking a place of worship among persons dedicated to the love of Christ and his teachings.*

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

## Before The Service

*A selection of traditional & contemporary sacred music arrangements played on the piano.*

**Prelude** *Musette* G. F. Handel, arr. S. Drummond Wolfe

## Ringing of the Bell

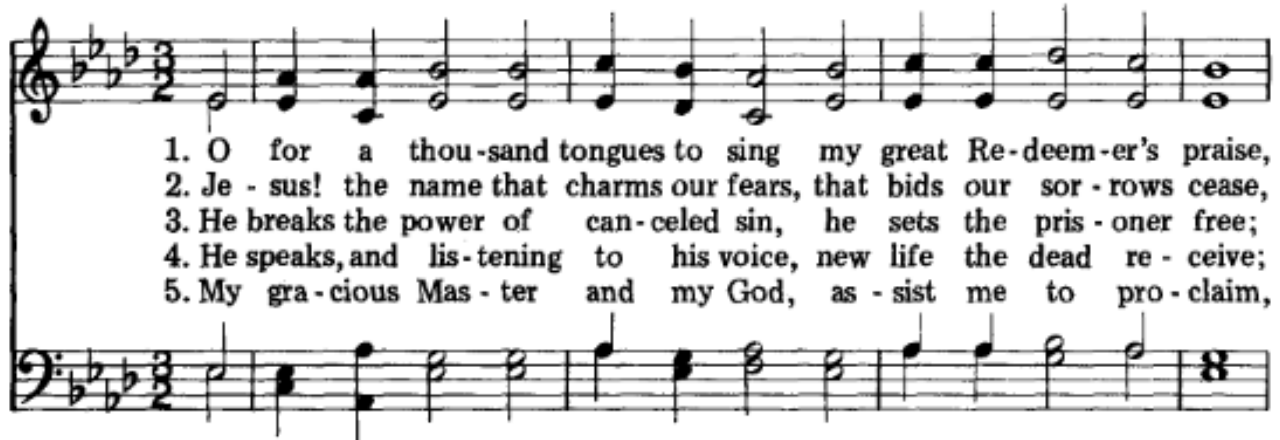
## Welcome & Announcements

### \*Greeting

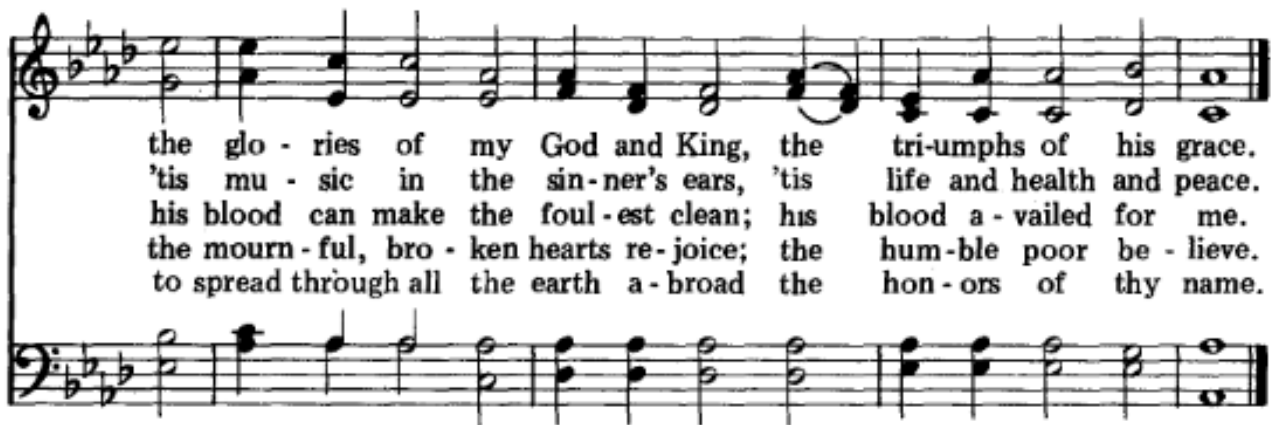
*P: Why are you frightened? Why do doubts arise in your hearts and haunt your steps?*

**C: Christ is here. Even now, the risen Christ is among us!**

**\*Gathering Hymn** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* all verses



1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease,  
3. He breaks the power of can-celed sin, he sets the pris - oner free;  
4. He speaks, and lis-tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;  
5. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,



the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace.  
'tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
his blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a - vailed for me.  
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re-joice; the hum-ble poor be - lieve.  
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.

### **\*Call to Worship**

*P: We still tell the good news!*

**C (sung): Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice.**

*P: The tomb was empty, and Jesus appeared to them.*

**C (sung): Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice.**

*P: Jesus gives peace to the people.*

**C (sung): Rejoice, rejoice, again I say rejoice.**

*P: Jesus says, "Don't be afraid."*

**C (sung): Rejoice, rejoice, again I say rejoice.**

*P: We are here to hear the good news, so we can tell others!*

**All (sung): Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!**

### **\*Opening Prayer**

LA: Let us pray together, saying:

**C: God of joy, repentance, and comfort, we need you today.**

**As we continue to celebrate the good news of the Resurrection, we remember times when it was hard news to believe.**

**As we come and worship you this day, may we leave our doubts and fears with you and enter into a time of joy. May we see your love come to life in all we do today. Amen.**

### **\*Invitation to Confession**

*P: If our actions mirrored our words, if our hands were mentored by our hearts, if we walked the talk - we would be God's children. But too often, it is our silence, our doubts, our fears which tell others who we truly are. Let us confess to God how we have not been as faithful as we hope, as we pray, saying,*

**C: God of empty tombs: Peter speaks with power and clarity of his faith, while we remain silent. The psalmist speaks of trusting in you, while our doubts overwhelm us. Jesus is read to come and grace us with peace, but our fears keep our hearts shuttered and locked.**

**God of full hearts: your love can change us from scared people to children of grace. You can weed doubts from our hearts and plant seeds of joy in their place. You can silence the panic of our souls with the peace Jesus offers to each of us. Transform us into Easter people, through the power of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

*P: What marvelous love, what wondrous grace, what abundant mercy God offers - to us! We really are God's people - that is exactly who we are!*

**C: We are God's children - those whose lives have been changed by the One who loves us and forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*Canticle of Praise**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise,  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*(Please be seated.)*

**Scriptures** (*Scripture Verses are NSRV unless otherwise stated*)

**The Lesson from Acts 3:12-19**

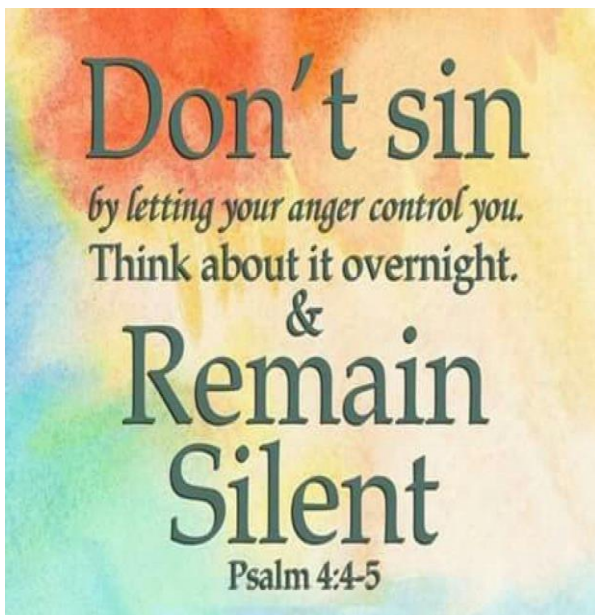
*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

**The Reading of Psalm 4**

*Peter might well have quoted this morning's Psalm to his audience at the temple. Two things are required to live, according to the author. One is to offer right sacrifice or, as we might better put it in our own time, to live a good and honorable life. The second is to trust God. To do the first without the second is a life of empty ritual where hope rests only in self-righteousness. To do the second without the first – to trust God without a life of decency and just living – is to live an empty life of vain words and lies. We are reminded to live a life of righteous trust, and then we will live in abundant security.*



- 1 Answer my prayers, O True God, the righteous, who makes me right.  
I was hopelessly surrounded, and You rescued me.  
Once again hear me; hide me in Your favor;  
bring victory in defeat and hope in hopelessness.
- 2 How long will you sons of Adam steal my dignity, reduce my glory to shame? Why pine for the fruitless and dream a delusion?**
- 3 Understand this: The Eternal One treats as special those like Him.  
The Eternal will answer my prayers and save me.
- 4 Think long; think hard. When you are angry, don't let it carry you into sin. When night comes, in calm be silent.**
- 5 From this day forward, offer to God the right sacrifice from a heart made right by God. Entrust yourself to the Eternal.
- 6 Crowds of disheartened people ask, "Who can show us what is good?" Let Your brilliant face shine upon us, O Eternal One, that we may know the undeniable answer.**
- 7 You have filled me with joy, and happiness has risen in my heart, great delight and unrivaled joy, even more than when bread abounds and wine flows freely.
- 8 Tonight I will sleep securely on a bed of peace because I trust You, You alone, O Eternal One, will keep me safe.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Lesson from Luke 24:36b-48**

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

### **\*Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*P: Listen to the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”

<sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

*P: This is the good news.*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **Prayer of the Day**

*P: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### **Sermon**

*“For the dead and the living, we must bear witness.”*

Elie Wiesel

## **Every Day is Easter Litany**

*P: When Thomas touched the wounds and set himself free*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*LA: When Peter's three "yes's" to Jesus finished his three denials*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*P: When Mary ready to embalm the dead ran in fear from  
the empty tomb*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*LA: When the disciples looked from afar at a breakfast of fish  
on the beach*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*P: When Emmaus became synonymous with welcome and the  
breaking of bread with strangers*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*LA: When Paul was blinded by the light and recognized the voice  
persisting in his head*

**C: it was Easter day!**

*P: When the hungry are fed at the table the same table as the rich*

**C: it is Easter day!**

*LA: When weapons are beaten to ploughshares and peace is a word  
to be shouted*

**C: it is Easter day!**

*P: When the stranger is welcomed in community  
and the lonely are restored to relationship*

**C: it is Easter day...**

~ written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on **Mucky Paws**.





**Hymn of the Day** *Lord of All Hopefulness* all verses

1. Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy, whose  
 2. Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith, whose  
 3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace, your  
 4. Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm, whose

trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy: be  
 strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be  
 hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace: be  
 voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm: be

there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
 there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your  
 there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your  
 there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.*

*(Silence is kept.)*

LA: O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

LA: O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

LA: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*P: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty especially... God of grace,*

**C: hear our prayer.**

*P: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community.*  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*P: O God our resting place, your Son, Jesus, promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn.*  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.*

*Hear us as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us...*

**\*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 sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**\* Offertory Invitation**

*P: When we worship, we offer our whole selves to God. We offer our hopes, our dreams, our wants, and our needs. We make our offerings to God with prayers and praise, song, and story, in hearing and responding to the word. Not one part of us is hidden from God. This includes our material selves. When we offer ourselves to God, we also offer the first fruits of our labor. We offer our tithes and offerings with joy as a way to worship the risen Christ. Please share generously.*

*(Please be seated)*

**Offertory Anthem:** *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!* Robert Lau

**\*Doxology (Sung)**

**C: 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**

*P: Let us pray.*

**C: Receive our gifts, almighty God. We offer them as we offer ourselves, fully. We pray that they would enable this community of faith to serve all of your people. May it make us better friends, may it make us better able to open up seats at the table and offer breakfast to those who need it. Amen.**

**\* Blessing**

*P: We still tell the Good News!*

**C: (sung): Rejoice in the Lord, always, again I say rejoice.**

*P: The tomb was empty, and Jesus appeared to them*

**C: (sung): Rejoice in the Lord, always, again, I say rejoice.**

*P: Jesus gives peace.*

**C: (sung): Rejoice, rejoice, again I say rejoice.**

*P: Jesus says "Don't be afraid."*

**C: (spoken or sung): Rejoice, rejoice, again I say rejoice.**

*P: In times of disbelief, in times of strife, in times of wondering, Jesus shows up. When we need a friend, Jesus shows up. The good news of Easter is that love came to life, and that love is Jesus Christ showing up when we need him most. This is but some of the good news. Go and share it!*

**All: (sung): Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!**



**\*Sending Hymn** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* all Verses

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling'. It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;  
3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
4. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.  
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

*We carry the light of Christ into the world.*

**\*Sung Benediction**

**C: God be with you till we meet again.  
By his counsels' guide uphold you,  
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,  
God be with you till we meet again.**

**\*Dismissal**

LA: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

LA: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude** *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* setting by Lani Smith

The Ministers: All the People

Pastor: Rev. Candi Cain-Borgman (cell: 610-762-9391)

Music Director: David Beck

Sexton: Don Hinderliter

Church Secretary: Jenny Simmons (Office Hrs. Tue-Wed-Thu 8am-4pm)

Videographer & Claxton: Phil Horlacher

Worship Lay Assistant: Ellen Sherer

Altar Guild: Sandra Diacogiannia

Usher: June Knecht

**2024 Cedar Advisory Board (CAB)**

President: Chris Ellis, Vice President: Tammy Boyer, Treasurer: Phil Horlacher, Assistant Treasurer: Sue Phillips, Secretary: Jeannine Leonard, Assistant Secretary: Janine Barnaby, Members: Ron Kozza, Cory Lentz, Zach Borger, Carol Haines and Pastor Candi Cain-Borgman.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**

Given by Betty Derhammer in honor grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Given by Kathy Balliet in memory of husband John Balliet

**BULLETIN:**

Given by Dale Clauser in loving memory of his wife Nancy Clauser.

Given by Nancy Otto in memory of husband Herman A. Otto

Given by Sarah Fraser, Nikole and John Gregoris in memory of David Shellhammer

**DEVOTIONALS:**

Given by The Estate of Paul and Madlyn Haines in memory of departed loved ones.

**YOUTH BULLETIN:**

Given by Ron and Jenny Simmons in honor of our grandchildren.

**APRIL 21<sup>st</sup> 2024**





## L.M.D Summer Ingathering:

Collecting Items for Lunch Program run by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Catasauqua. They are providing free lunches in a local park to feed and support children of their community. We been asked to collect the following items beginning April 14<sup>th</sup> thru May.

1. Individual salty snack bags
2. 16oz bottles of water
3. Walmart (Sam's Club) gift cards in \$10 increments for Trinity Lutheran to purchase needed supplies



*If you would like to sponsor the church bulletin  
@ \$5 per week, please contact Jenny  
at the church office.  
Some dates have come available.*

**We also have Altar Flowers Dates  
Available \$14.50 ea.**



**46 or 40 ounce cans needed for our altar flowers**



**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

Garnett, Kathy Ehrhardt, Marty and Roseanne Ritter, Traevis and Cassidy, Sydney and JJ, Connie D., Alicia Eggert, Greg and Heather Gravec, David Annoni, John Winterburn, Amy Beck, Ray Fenstermacher, Charles Schiffert, Margaret Boyle, Carnell and Abby, Christa, Eric Wakoli, Nancy Erdman, Barbara, Hailey, Patti, George Minnich, Gail and Ken Ruth, Tom Bartman, Marlene Frey, Andy Wheeler, Kourtney, Charles Haggerty, Denise, Sara Beth, Amanda and Jessie, Mary, Connor, Cindy Polchik, Danielle, Barry, Gary Shellhammer, Susan Pursell, Joan Carter, Dale Erdman, Ron Zorn, Rod, Kathleen, Jean Robertson, Christine Wagner, Megan, Terry Mace, Dawn Fenstermacher, Kim Bastian, Linda Ellis, Scott, Debbie, Shirley McNabb, Pauline Gaal, Al and Joan Plarr, Haisley Grim, Gene and Joan, Howard and Nancy, Cassie Mace, Cindy Fenstermacher, Anna Mae Derhammer, Brooke Weber, Fritz and Ardella Ehrhardt, Members of our Recovery Groups, Lisa Stover Halley and Family

**To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the church office.**

**(Hospitalization codes: 203 and 404)**

**Note: The Lehigh Valley and Saint Luke's Hospital Lists are not kept up to date and can be difficult to navigate. So, please notify the Church Office or Pastor Candi if you or a family member is hospitalized.**

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## **Church Calendar**

### **Sunday, April 14, 2024**

Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
CHURCH SOCIAL	10:30am	Kitchen, Social Hall

### **Wednesday, April 17, 2024**

Choir Practice	7:00pm	100
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### **Sunday, April 21, 2024**

Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
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HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

### **Monday, April 22, 2024**

Book Club	7:00pm	100
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### **Wednesday, April 24, 2024**

Book Club	10:30am	Social Hall
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Cemetery	7:00pm	103
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Choir Practice	7:00pm	100
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### **Sunday, April 28, 2024**

Sunday Worship Service	9:30am	Sanctuary
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Hymn Sing

**MAY 5<sup>th</sup> Social at 10:30am**





## **Pastor Prayer List**

Garnett, Kathy Ehrhardt, Marty and Roseanne Ritter, Traevis and Cassidy, Sydney, Connie D., Alicia Eggert, Greg and Heather Gravec, David Annoni, John Winterburn, Amy Beck, Ray Fenstermacher, Charles Schiffert, Margaret Boyle, Carnell and Abby, Christa, Eric Wakoli, Nancy Erdman, Barbara, Hailey, Patti, George Minnich, Gail and Ken Ruth, Tom Bartman, Marlene Frey, Andy Wheeler, Kourtney, Charles Haggerty, Denise, Sara Beth, Amanda and Jessie, Mary, Connor, Cindy Polchik, Danielle, Barry, Gary Shellhammer, Susan Pursell, Joan Carter, Dale Erdman, Ron Zorn, Rod, Kathleen, Jean Robertson, Christine Wagner, Megan, Dawn Fenstermacher, Kim Bastian, Linda Ellis, Scott, Debbie, Shirley McNabb, Pauline Gaal, Al and Joan Plarr, Haisley Grim, Gene and Joan, Howard and Nancy, Cassie Mace, Cindy Fenstermacher, Anna Mae Derhammer, Brooke Weber, Fritz and Ardella Ehrhardt, Members of our Recovery Groups, Lisa Stover Halley and Family