



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of **MADISON**



April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*** Call to Worship**

L: How very good and pleasant it is

P: when kindred live together in unity!

L: It is like the dew of Hermon

P: which falls on the mountains of Zion.

L: For there the Lord ordained His blessing, life
forevermore.

*** Opening Hymn**

Day of Arising

*Day of arising, Christ on the roadway,
unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day,
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.*

*When we are walking, doubtful and dreading,
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
yet Christ walks with us ever awaiting
our invitation: Stay, do not part.*

*“Lo, I am with you,” Jesus has spoken.
This is Christ’s promise, this is Christ’s sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.*

*Christ our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all creation with you may rise.*

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess our doubts and fears, our failure to recognize your presence. Forgive our blindness to your truth and our hesitancy to boldly proclaim your love. Open our eyes to see you clearly and fill us with the courage to walk faithfully with you. Amen.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, in the midst of doubt and uncertainty, know that you are embraced by the boundless love and grace of our God. Through Christ's resurrection, we are assured of forgiveness and redemption. Receive the assurance that in Christ, our sins are forgiven, our doubts are dispelled, and we are welcomed into the abundant life He offers.

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Congregational Response**

*Halle, Halle, Halleluja
Sing the Faith Hymnal*

Halle, halle, hal-le-lu-ja!

Halle, halle, hal-le-lu-ja!

Halle, halle, hal-le-lu-ja!

Halleluja! Halleluja!

Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, touch our hearts this morning with the light and love of Jesus as we walk humbly with Him. Proclaim the gospel message of hope to encourage our spirits. Guide us with the Holy Spirit into paths of faithful service. We continue to celebrate your resurrection rejoicing every time we worship you. Bless our congregation to be a sanctuary for those in need of healing and renewal. May our words and actions boldly promote the good news which saves the world. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 2: 1-5

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. 3 Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nation and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. 5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 24: 13-35

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"

19 He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” 25 Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. 28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 35 Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sermon

Walking with Jesus on the Road to Emmaus

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith**

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives.

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

***Closing Hymn**

*2115 Christ Has Risen
Sing The Faith Hymnal*

Benediction

***Postlude**

*As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.
We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,
to be Christ's body in the world.*

WORSHIP LEADER

Susan Mennella

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome Reverend Adrian Deepak as our guest pastor today. He is from India who is an ordained presbyter from the Church of South India. He is a theologian who is pursuing a master's degree in Sacred Theology (STM) at Drew University. He will be graduating on May 10th.

PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE

Session is serving as the search committee for a new covenant supply pastor. This is the position that Jacqui Van Vliet has held since July 2020 and will be retiring from on April 30th. Her last Sunday in worship was on April 14th.

We have created a job description that has been posted on a job website for the 15 presbyteries that serve the greater New York City and Philadelphia metro region, including all of New Jersey. We have created our Ministry Discernment Profile which is posted on the national Church Leadership Connection website. All interested pastors will first contact Jeanne Radak, leader of Highlands Presbytery, who knows our church well and will be able to determine if a potential candidate will be a good fit.

We will have guest pulpit supply pastors. The Presbytery Committee on Ministry has appointed a Session moderator so that Session can continue to do business.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact any member of Session: Jim Burnet, Stephanie Haedrich, Mary-Anna Holden, Becky Moody, Megan Peterson, and Yorgi Vlamis.

PRAYER LIST

- Sue Murr Haas recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Kiarnan who recently moved to a group residential facility
- The family and friends of the individuals killed in the two stabbing attacks in three days in Sydney, Australia
- Tom Weck, at home recovering from recent surgery, and for Sandy as she cares for him
- Linda who is undergoing cancer surgery
- Pat Howard who may need back surgery and is in great discomfort
- Evelyn Dowling who is recovering from surgery for tears in her retina
- Jim Kakalettris, father of Jennifer Kakalettris Boyar, who is continuing recovery from recent surgery
- Bill, father of Sara Burnet, and for his wife, Jeri Ann
- Zoelle, diagnosed with a serious form of breast cancer
- Philip, who recently moved to Sunrise Assisted Living
- Ongoing war between Ukraine and Russia; continuing work toward peace; continuing release of captured soldiers from both sides
- Continuing loss of life in Gaza from ongoing war between Israel and Hamas; release of hostages held by Hamas and work toward peaceful ending
- William Christopher who is continuing recovery from surgery
- Deborah for healing from grief and to feel joy in her heart again
- Pat for a new job that will relieve her stress and unhealthy environment in her current job
- Esther for strength, hope, and healing as she goes through cancer treatment
- Len who is battling cancer
- Ed for continued healing from a serious leg break
- Ben who is back in middle school after cancer treatment

NOTES

NOTES

WELCOMING ALL
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY
CENTERED IN CHRIST,
GROWING IN FAITH,
SERVING IN JOY, AND
LIVING IN GRATITUDE

Staff

Jacqui Van Vliet
Pastor

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Alexandra Argiris
Office Assistant

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Music

Worship
Sunday Service 10:15 am

Session

Jim Burnet
Becky Moody, Clerk

Stephanie Haedrich
Megan Peterson

Mary-Anna Holden
Giorgios Vlamis

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination
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