

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

Gathering

PRELUDE *Traci Bopp, Musician*
WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION
Dave Sippel, Pastor of Discipleship & Missional Engagement

Expansion of Our Hearts

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*
Doubt and fear are gone!
Light and hope abound!
Where we once felt alone and lost;
Christ has come to walk again with us.
Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!
AMEN.

*GATHERING SONG #361 *(Blue Hymnal)* "Worship Christ, the Risen King" v. 1-2, 4
Brooke Burgin, Song Leader

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE *(responsive)*
Gracious God, you give to us your greatest gift, Your Son Jesus Christ, as we still don't understand what is going on. You call us to be people of courage and hope; and yet we run and hide, doubting and fearing. You challenge us to proclaim our faith; but we huddle in darkness whispering our words of discouragement.
Shake us up, Lord! Forgive us when we seem to need prodding over and over again. Help us to see the presence of Jesus in our lives; and remind us of all that He taught us, to help us to live as disciples, serving you by serving others.
Change us! Remold us! Make us truly the disciples you have called us to be.
AMEN.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE May the peace of Christ be with you all! **And also with you!**
(10 a.m. only) Children and youth are invited to leave for their classes.

SPECIAL MUSIC *(10 a.m. only)* "Graves Into Gardens" *by Brandon Lake*
Vocals: Aiden Rosen, Rileigh Slufik, Guitar: Martin Williams, Percussion: Paul Larsen

Reception of God's Word

PREPARATION FOR READING

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scriptures. **Our hearts and minds are open.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 24:36-48, NIV
Pauline McKeown (8:30 a.m.) Lew Shafer (10:00 a.m.), Readers

36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.

44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

MESSAGE "Beginning at Jerusalem"

Dave Sippel, Pastor of Discipleship & Missional Engagement

Transformation of Our Lives

SONG OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE

#359 *(Blue Hymnal)* "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks!"

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Join the pastor in the following response:

God of Resurrection
...**Hear our Prayers!**

OFFERING & OFFERTORY *(10 a.m. only)*

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son & Holy Ghost. Amen

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Compassion For the World

*SENDING SONG **#368** *(Blue Hymnal)* "**He Lives**"

*BENEDICTION This time of worship has ended. **Let the service begin!**

*POSTLUDE

** Indicates to please, stand, if able.*



TODAY & THIS WEEK-APRIL 14, 2024



NEW SERMON SERIES - RESURRECTION CHURCH:

Today we will begin a new sermon series called "Resurrection Church". In this series we will ask "What

does the good news of Jesus' resurrection mean for how we live as Christians in the world?" As companions on the journey, we will follow stories in scripture from the early church drawing heavily from the book of Acts and the post resurrection stories in the Gospels.

Today, Pastor Dave will be preaching from Luke 24:36-48. We'll revisit the moment where Jesus appears to his disciples. We'll hear this familiar story from a different Gospel writer's perspective. Once again, the words of Jesus are challenging, clear, and hopefully...memorable.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MYSTERY MISSION RETREAT: 14 of our middle school youth and adults will be headed out to a mystery destination on April 19-21. We'll do some service work and have fun doing outdoor activities too. Registration has closed for this event. The packing list will be sent out on Monday, the 15th. Parents are welcome to learn more about the trip if they promise to keep it a secret. We will be meeting at the church at 6:00 p.m. on Friday. We plan to return to the church at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.



***TODAY*BEA KETTLEWOOD ARTWORK SHARE:** Stop by Friendship Hall after worship today to view Bea's artwork. Hours today are until 4:00 p.m. The proceeds

will be donated to the Cemetery for use towards the restoration of the historic cemetery fence. Checks should be written to First Reformed Church with "BCK" in the memo line. *Please note that monetary donations given at this event will not be reflected in your normal FRC giving statement as you will be receiving artwork to take home, therefore these donations are not tax deductible.*

***TODAY*SPRING TEA FOR 75+ MEMBERS & FRIENDS IS NEXT SUNDAY:** The Pastoral Care Team cordially invites our 75 years young and older members to the Spring Tea on April 14 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in Grace Chapel. Join us for a fun filled afternoon as we enjoy a unique and wonderful fellowship!



CAN YOU HELP WITH BREAD OF LIFE?: It's that time again! FRC will be serving in Newark on April 14. If you can stay after church to make sandwiches and prep bags, meet by the Friendship Hall kitchen.

THINGS TO KNOW

FRIENDSHIP HALL HAS A NEW PROJECTOR! Thank you for your patience as we worked to get a new projector in this worship space. The funds for the new projector were provided in part by the memorial funds for Doris Ruemmler. Many thanks to the family of Doris for using these funds in Doris' memory to make make Friendship Hall a place of inclusive and accessible worship through our new projector.

EVENTS

PUT A STEP IN YOUR SPRING – SUNDAY APRIL 21 AFTER EACH SERVICE: Come get out in the sunshine and fresh air. Take a stroll with Arborist Forrest Harper around our church property and cemetery to learn about our trees and at the same time, learn the benefits that walking can have on your health. We'll start in Friendship Hall with a bottle of water and then head out. Wear your sneakers! This program is sponsored by the Health & Wellness Team.

FISH & CHIPS DINNER - THURSDAY, MAY 9TH FROM 5:00-7:00 P.M.: The Women's Ministry of FRC will be hosting a Fish & Chips Dinner catered by Tastefully British. The dinner will be held on May 9th from 5:00–7:00 p.m. This year you can pick up in a Drive-Thru or gather with friends and family to eat in Friendship Hall. Either way, you must pre-order. For pick up, drive behind Friendship Hall and you will be greeted by a Women's Ministry team member. If you are dining in, please park across the street in the town hall lot. Dinners include fish or chicken tenders, french fries, coleslaw, tartar sauce, malt vinegar, and a tasty dessert. Each meal is \$20. Order by filling out the form included in this publication or by going on our website. Orders will be accepted through May 6th at 3:00 p.m.

SERVE/SUPPORT

COMMUNION OFFERING FOR APRIL WILL SUPPORT

BESSIE GREEN: Bessie Green Community Inc. has been serving the underprivileged of Newark, New Jersey since 1978. They provide hot meals, clothing, bags of groceries and support services to the community at large. Their food pantry is open daily and they provide bags for seniors to meet special dietary needs. Their Soup Kitchen provides grab & go breakfast and lunch meals daily. All are welcome to the table at no charge. To donate, you can mail in a check, place it in the collection during worship, or donate online securely through our website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "April Communion" in the memo line.

PEQUANNOCK FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS: We were fortunate to be recipients of a food drive this week, but we are still low on many things after 97 clients took advantage of the food pantry last week. Below is a list of items we could use - * are more urgent.
*Canned fruit, *Spam, *Pasta Sauce *Pkg. milk like Parmalat, *Paper towels, *Tissues, *Cookies, crackers, pretzels and chips, *Vegetables like Spinach, Asparagus, Lima beans, wax Beans, Peas & Carrots combo, *Corned beef hash, *Coffee, Mayonnaise, Sardines or salmon, Salad dressing, Brownie mix, Pickles and olives, Sugar and flour (1-2 lb bag or box), Canned chicken, Pudding or jello cups, Oatmeal – instant or regular, Shampoo and conditioner, Sauces, bread crumbs, other meal enhancements.

SPARK KIDZ

CHILDREN AND COMMUNION CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN: Children in 2nd grade & up who are interested in participating in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper are invited to register for our First Communion Class. The class will be held during our regular Spark Kidz time on May 12 & 19. A First Communion Celebration will be held during the 10:00 a.m. service on June 2nd. Register on the FRC website Grow/Youth & Children

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES: Anyone wishing to enroll their child in Spark Kidz classes or for more information, contact Janet Chardavoyne. janet@frc-pp.org

IGNITE & FUSE YOUTH

FUEL YOUTH GROUP: Anyone wishing information about youth group and Sunday morning classes can check our website for event details or contact Dave Sippel dave@frc-pp.org

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE:

Walt Stelzenmueller, passed away on April 8 at the age of 89. A service was held yesterday. Cards to his children; Lisa & Darren Mackey 134 Newark Pompton Tpke, Wayne 07470, Kurt Stelzenmueller & Lori Gabriele 51 New Read St. Pequannock 07440, and Lori Osborne 104 Hillcrest Dr., Wayne 07470

CONCERNS:

Peace in our world

Rosemary Maka's niece's husband John, is hospitalized with unresolved health issues. Prayers for wisdom for the doctors and for effective treatment and healing. Please hold in prayer **Zach Pearce's church**, who has been in a discussion about merging with another congregation.

Friend of Pauline McKeown, undergoing chemotherapy. **Jeanine Tedeschi**, Rose Chara's niece, recently hospitalized.

Prayers for **Mary Indoe**, as she continues to heal from a recent surgery.

Prayers for **Kim Pearce**, Pastor Stacey's father-in-law who is having hip surgery on April 30.

Prayers for **Linda Rooney**, as she prepares for knee replacement surgery on April 26.

Prayers for **Dave Rayner**, who has been released from the hospital.

Victoria Sharpe, Sandy Bernstein's sister, on hospice care. **Eunice Bird**, prayers for continued recovery.

Frank Scangarella, has been discharged to a rehab facility, prayers for continued healing.

Barbara Livingstone, prayers for 2 infusions coming up. Prayers also for Barbara's daughter, **Barbara Sutton**, suffering with cellulitis at this time.

LONG TERM CONCERNS:

Colleen Erickson (niece of Rose & Frank Chara), **Lorraine Nichols**, **John De Falco**, **Judy Napoli**, **Kaitlyn Rubano**, **Karen Milligan**, **Heather** (Tony's daughter in law), **Michael Bozza** (friend of Gloria Krueger), **Brandi** (friend of Ann Marie Ziffer), **William (Bill) Erickson** (brother-in-law of Frank and Rose Chara), **Nancy Crefeld** (Pete's mom), **Holly Campbell** (Lori Osborne's friend), **Kathryn Dontje** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Brenda** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Logan Boncek** (Gloria Krueger's cousin's grandson), **Judy Lento** (Pat Lento's sister in law), **Charles Cunningham**, **Dee Patrick**, **Dolores Garritano** (Gloria Krueger's sister) **Peter Garritano & Jim Jenkins** (family of Gloria Krueger), **Jim**, (Lynn Rayner's brother), **Candace** (Jane Young's sister), **Patti Moffa** (Alyse Cafasso's friend), **Amy Griffith**, **Adele Ebert** (Shell's mom), **Paul** (Susan De Bell's brother), **Michael Clark** (Sharon Hollick's son in law)

FINANCIALS

HOW TO DONATE TO FRC: Please reflect in prayerful consideration how you can support FRC.

Give Electronically: Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically. You can also scan the QR code to donate or visit our website at www.firstreformedchurch.com and choose the blue "Donate" button.

In Person: Drop your check at the office or place it in the offering during worship. **Mail** checks to The First Reformed Church, Attn: Ann Marie Ziffer (Finance Manager), 529 Newark Pompton Tpke., Pompton Plains, NJ 07444.

