



Mother, Church
May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter



MEDITATION

I wish I could sit in the corner and watch you walk the miracle of motherhood (and I mean that in the least creepy way possible)

-Jamie Finn, host of the Real Mom podcast

...for those numberless things left in silence, my God, accept my testimony and thanks—but I will not leave out what my mind can express about her, your handmaid. Her flesh brought me forth to live in this daylight, as her heart brought me forth to live in eternal light.

-Augustine

... let [Christians] dread being spiritually childless. We must ... cry out in anguish, "Give me converts or I die." Young men, and old men, and sisters of all ages, if you love the Lord, get a passion for souls.

-Spurgeon

Be continuously drunk! On wine, on poetry, or on virtue as you wish.

-Baudelaire

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers and hymns. Set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible readings in accord with the Church year, these scripture readings are designed around a three-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently.

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, May 12th	Psalm 100	Ezekiel 37:15-28	Revelation 15:1-4
Tuesday the 13th	Psalm 100	Ezekiel 45:1-9	Acts 9:32-35
Wednesday the 14th	Psalm 100	Jeremiah 50:17-20	John 10:31-42
Thursday the 15th	Psalm 148	Ezekiel 2:8-3:11	Revelation 10:1-11
Friday the 16th	Psalm 148	Daniel 7:13-14	Revelation 11:15
Saturday the 17th	Psalm 148	Daniel 7:27	Revelation 11:16-19

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WELCOME

Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor.

For Parents:

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with us as we worship. We like the noise; it helps us remember we are alive. The following services are available for you and your children to get the most out of your time of worship:

Infant & Toddler Care

Infant and toddler care is available on the first floor of the east wing of our building. Ask one of our greeters if you need help locating this room. Nursery staff are well-trained, have required background checks, and maintain a safe environment for your child(ren).

Children & Worship

Children & Worship is for children ages preschool through 2nd grade and meets in a worship space below the sanctuary during the sermon. They are dismissed during the announcements and return during the offertory. New families are welcome to tour the space before or after a service if desired.

ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + **EASTER** + PENTECOST + TRINITY

Easter is the greatest festival season of the Christian year. It begins with the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunday) and lasts for 50 days. After the long preparation of Lent, and the cold dreary winter months that accompany it, and the somber preparation of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, Easter Sunday erupts into our hearts and souls as a joyous celebration filled with expectation of Christ's work among us. For 50 days we feast and celebrate Our Lord and his great victory. Easter themes are new life, joy, exuberance, resurrection, hope and love. The liturgical colors for Easter are white and gold.

Please note that our services are live-streamed.



LITURGY OF PREPARATION

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

based on 1 Peter 1:3-5

Gathering Hymn - I Will Sing

With my mouth, I will tell of Your faithfulness
I'll declare, Lord, Your covenant, with my life
With my mouth, I will tell of Your faithfulness
I'll declare, Lord, Your covenant
With my life

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing of the Lord's great love
I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing, oh, I will sing

Lord, You are, the glory of all our strength
Your presence along the way, for all our days

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing of the Lord's great love
I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing, oh, I will sing
Oh Lord, God Almighty, who is like You?

Oh Lord, God Almighty, none beside You
Oh Lord, God Almighty, all the earth and sky belong to You

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing of the Lord's great love
I will sing of the Lord's great love forever
I will sing, oh, I will sing
Of His great love
I will sing

Confession Hymn - *Trisagion*

Ho - ly God Ho - ly and might - y Ho - ly Im-
mor - tal One have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness & Peace

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]

Hymns of Praise and Adoration

For All The Saints

For all the saints, who from their labors rest
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are thine
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

But then there breaks a still more glorious day
The saints triumphant rise in bright array
The King of glory passes on his way
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
In praise to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

Teach Us Your Ways

Teach us Your ways, teach us Your ways
As we learn from one another
Learn to love each other
Teach us Your ways

Teach us to give, teach us to give
Give ourselves for one another
Learn to love each other
Teach us to give

Teach us to weep, teach us to weep
Let us weep with one another
Learn to love each other
Teach us to weep

Hallelujah, hallelujah
Let us learn from one another
Learn to love each other
Teach us Your ways



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Living Our Faith

Blessing Our Children

Jesus called the children to him and said,

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,

for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

May Memory Verse

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." *John 20:17*

Psalm Reading

Psalm 78:1-8; page 578

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 1:1-18, 24-28; page 266

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:6-7; page 1172

The Word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:
Glory to you, O Lord!

Luke 2:34-35; page 1019

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Jed Stalker - Mother, Church

Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell;**

**on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended to heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

- *The Apostles' Creed*

Offering of Prayers of the People

God of life, we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, his defeat over death, and his gift of new life. We praise you for the reflections of that new life in creation, in the world about us here in Harrisburg and beyond, in the life of your church both here and abroad, in the community of Second City Church. In the new life that is brought about in the resurrected Christ, we bring to you our praises

To you, as the giver of new life and the renewer of our hope, we bring before you our prayer for creation and its care, for the needs of the nations of the world, for our own leaders in our land, for the community of Harrisburg and the the community of Second City Church and the churches of our city. We bring to you our prayers believing that you are the God who is there and loves when your people come before you in faith

We pray all this in the name of the Lord and giver of life, Jesus. **Amen.**

Offering of Gifts

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:32



Friends and members of Second City Church support the extension of God's Kingdom with gifts of bread, wine, talents and resources. Guests are not expected to contribute. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates, boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically. Instructions for setting up online giving are available at the donation boxes.

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Invitation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Praise God for His Mighty Acts

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you have created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us - even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was exalted as King of the universe, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

Holy God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
[Repeat]

Praise for Christ's Sacrifice

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying:

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us once for all upon the cross.

Therefore let us keep the feast!

Sharing Holy Communion

Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free.

Closing Prayer

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Benediction

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

- Hebrews 13:20-21

Closing Hymn - Do With It What You Will

You have given all to me, to you O Lord I return it
Everything I have is Yours, do with it what you will

You will gather all of me, every gift, every burden
Every day and every hour, do with it what you will

I lift it up
I lay it down, at your table
Multiply my sacrifice
For You are able

I will take my daily cross, every step of the journey
I will bear it for your sake, do with it what you will

Take my laughter and my loss, make them tools of your mercy
Anything my hands can make, do with it what you will

I lift it up
I lay it down, at your table
Multiply my sacrifice
For You are able

Dismissal

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Hallelujah! Amen.



ATTRIBUTIONS

I Will Sing

Words and music by Sandra McCracken & Leslie Jordan

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Trisagion

Armenian; English; Spanish

For All the Saints, Who From Their Labor Rest

Text: William W. How (1823-1897)

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Teach Us Your Ways

Words and Music by Leslie Jordan, Aaron Keyes, Orlando Palmer, Isaac Wardell & Paul Zach

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Sanctus

Holy God of Power and Might
Music by Christian Davis

Do With It What You Will

Words and Music by Nick Chambers, Leslie Jordan, Kate Bluett

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Your Work Is Happening Here

Words and Music by Lowana Porter, Leslie Jordan, Isaac Wardell, Kate Bluett

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salt n Pepper Shakers Seniors luncheon This Wednesday, May 14th

The Salt n Pepper Shakers Seniors luncheon will be held this Wednesday, May 14th at 12 noon at the Cracker Barrel at 2525 Brindle Drive, Harrisburg. Questions? See Cindy Russo or Pastor Peter.

Sunday Picnics Starting Next Sunday, May 18 After Church

Because of Mother's Day, our first picnic of the summer will be next Sunday. Join us after church at the LOWER pavilion of Negley Park, located at 418 Cumberland Road in Lemoyne.

Reminders for Election Day, May 20

Tuesday, May 20 is the next primary election, and once again, the church will be serving as a polling place. The county requires all visitors other than voters not to enter the Social Hall but to use alternate doors to enter and exit the building. Thank you for your cooperation.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Interested in Volunteering with VBS Next Month?

We are excited for what this summer holds for our children's ministry at Second City! Our hope is to host a three evening VBS June 11-13, but we can't do it without your help. If you are interested in helping in any way or would like to learn more about the program, please contact Hannah Hollander at hannah@secondcitychurch.org.

Altar Flowers

Today's altar flowers are given in loving memory of Ira Roden by his wife Dottie, his son Keith, his daughter-in-law Beth, and his grandson and wife Brian and Skylar Roden.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for the following people:

Dottie Roden
Darwin Leshar
Virginia Anderson

Nevin White
Sophia James, USAF
Eleanor Orner

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider liking, following and subscribing to our social media! Also, when you see, read or watch something you like, share it with your friends. It's a helpful way to let others know we are here!

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

_____ Visitor
_____ Regular Attendee
_____ Member

Name(s):

Address (please include city and zip):

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Prayer

Requests: _____

Contact us

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