

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN, Johnstown, PA
Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Christ is risen! **P: He is risen indeed!**

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L: Christ is risen! **P: He is risen indeed!**

L: This is the day the Lord has made!

P: We will rejoice in it.

L: This is the day God has made; and what a day!

P: When God wipes away our tears so we can see the empty tomb.

L: What a day! Easter day!

P: When God opens our hearts' tombs as Jesus calls us by name.

L: Christ is risen! **P: He is risen indeed!**

L: Christ is risen! **P: He is risen indeed!**

L: Christ is risen! **P: He is risen indeed!**

HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" #217

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: Logically, rationally, we have no need to confess. Our petty sins pale in comparison to the great evils of our time. But this is the day God tossed logic out the window and raised Jesus from the dead. So we must throw out our claims of innocence, and confess how we have not lived as God's Easter people.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

On this first day of the week, Emptier of tombs, we must admit that we have not lived faithfully the last few days. It is not that we have done great evil; we simply have failed to do good for others. It is not so much that we have caused hurt, but we have not brought healing. It is not that we have trouble believing in the event of Easter, we have difficulty speaking about this day to our friends and neighbors.

Call us by name, Redeemer of all creation, so we might hear your words of mercy. You have not give us over to despair, but handed us hope. You have not ignored our emptiness, but filled us with the Bread of Heaven. You do not give us over to death, but raise us to new life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, in whose name we pray.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: On this Easter, as on the first; on this day, as on every day; God turns to us, calls us by name, and plants forgiveness and hope in our lives.

P: Alleluia! This is the good news! Christ is our peace, the peace we need, the peace which will heal the world. Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

L: Friends, Believe the Good News

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

GLORIA PATRI #623

CHURCH NEWS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet your neighbor by saying, "The Peace of Christ be With You.")

REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

Offertory

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

#625

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Isaiah 65:17-25 p.644

New Testament Acts 10:34-43 p.957

Gospel Lesson John 20: 1-18 p.944

MESSAGE: Rev. Carol Isley Corey

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles' Creed

HYMN "Because He Lives" #213

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Hear our prayers, O Lord. **P: And let our cry come unto Thee.**

L: Let us bless the Lord! **P: Thanks be to God.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

The body of Christ. **Response: The bread of heaven.**

The blood of Christ. **Response: The cup of salvation.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
THE LORDS PRAYER**

HYMN "Thine Is the Glory" #227

BENEDICTION

L: We could just return to our homes and go back to life,

P: but we will go to rebuild neighbors, and share the light we have received.

L: We could just stand around and wonder where Jesus has gone,

P: but we will turn and, as he calls us by name, follow to bring hope and healing to our world.

L: We could just keep quiet and not whisper a word to anyone,

P: but we will go to tell others of the good news that Jesus is alive and in our midst.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Christ Arose" #216

****© Rev. Thom Shuman**

ORGANISTS : Elaine Bilger

WORSHIP LEADER: Tomi Nosko

"The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies." - Kate McGahan

"The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake." - Basil Hume

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

(Easter Sunday)

The resurrection story finds its significance far beyond the life of one man, Jesus. The resurrection of Jesus was also the resurrection of the community of believers. A small group of men and women, who had only hours earlier watched in terror as their leader was crucified, found new life and new existence in the resurrection. Filled with the assurance of the words of Jesus Christ, they spread the gospel throughout the world.

The resurrection message is a message of hope. We cannot fall so far or sink so deep that new life is not ours for the asking through Jesus Christ. There is no mess we can make of our lives that cannot be changed through the resurrection. Just as the resurrection of Jesus brought new life to the community of faith in the First Century, it can bring new hope and new life to persons and communities of faith today.

When Jesus said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again," she misunderstood, thinking of the resurrection which pious Jews expected to come on the Day of the Lord, when the Messiah would come, the graves would be opened, the non-believers would perish, and the righteous would enter into a new relationship with God in the Messiah's new kingdom.

But, Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life." We too, like Martha, often misunderstand. The resurrection is for us in the here and now. We have only to believe in the power of the risen Christ and to appropriate that power through faith in him. And, the result is new life in us — a resurrection.

I am the RESURRECTION and the life

John 11.25



Offering: 04/13
Attendance: 18
Local 341.35
Benev. 23.65
Improv. 20.00
OGHS 28.00
Total 413.00

Sunday April 20th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday

Sunday April 27th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Directories are available on the back table. Be sure to pick one up today.

Thank You to everyone who helped organize this morning's breakfast.

Sign Ups for 2025 Lay Leaders are still being accepted. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up on the back bulletin board.

Orders are being taken for 2025 Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships. Order forms and more information can be found on the back bulletin board and can be placed in the offering plate. Orders can also be placed on the church website.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Dawna Sheets	Dave & Karen Vivis
Jeanne Lehman	Joshua Holbay Family
Marie Whorl	Dominic Serratore
Bev Holbay	Loretta Davidson
Mark Todero	Irene Barefoot Bischof
Carl Newfield	Rodney Gramling
Beverly Rager	Randy Maurer
Mikey Ferante	Jim Kuntz
Jill Sheets	Taylor Short
Frank Cassat	Barry Ross
Nancy Kahl	Nancy Gibson
Linda Hayes	All Shut- Ins
Matt Molnar	All in Nursing Homes
Bobbie Johnson	All First Responders
Will Karalfa	All Service Men & Women
Nancy Thomas	All Healthcare Professionals

To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names in the bulletin please email bethanyjtown@hotmail.com.

Visit Our Website (www.bethanyjohnstown.com) or follow us on Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church- Johnstown, PA) for- the latest news, information and much more!

Donations of non-perishable foods and cleaning products for the West End Food Pantry can be placed in the bins by the Blaine St. entrance. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your support.

EASTER FLOWERS

In Memory Of:

Milford (Jake) Johnson
David Hayduk
Tom Pisarczyk
Grandmother
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones

Given By:

The Huchel Family
Linda Orlidge
Sylvia Pisarczyk
Christine Lees
Linda Orlidge
Jessie Rager
The Molnars
Ray & Dawna Sheets
Beverly Smith Holbay

In Honor Of:

Bobbie Johnson

Given By:

The Huchel Family

