

Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church
419 Bossardsville Road
Stroudsburg, PA

Celebrating the 3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

“Peace,
BE WITH YOU!”

*Jesus himself stood among the disciple
and said to them,*

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.christhamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. All are welcome here. If you are a visitor please feel free to take the welcome folder home with you. We invite you to fill out the card found inside and place it in the plate at the time of the offering.

Today's service: *The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.*

Altar flowers are given in celebration of grandchildren: Sofia, Asher and Tekla, by Ken and Maryellen Mross.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turs to life once more;
now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
an - gels on his steps at-tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you**

HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray. . . . 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, so that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING

ACTS 3:12-19

Reader: A reading from the 3rd chapter of Acts.

¹²[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?¹³ 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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.

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

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 4



Cantor: Answer me when I call, O God, defender¹ of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me
and¹ hear my prayer.

**All: “You mortals, how long will you dishon-¹ or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek¹ after lies?”**

Cantor: Know that the LORD does wonders¹ for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me¹ when I call.

**All: Tremble, then, and¹ do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up-¹ on your bed.**

Cantor: Offer the appointed¹ sacrifices,
and put your trust¹ in the LORD.

**All: Many are saying, “Who will show us¹ any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon¹ us, O LORD.**

Cantor: You have put gladness¹ in my heart,
more than when grain and¹ wine abound.

**All: In peace, I will lie¹ down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me¹ rest secure.**

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 3:1-7

Reader: A reading from the 1st chapter of First John.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

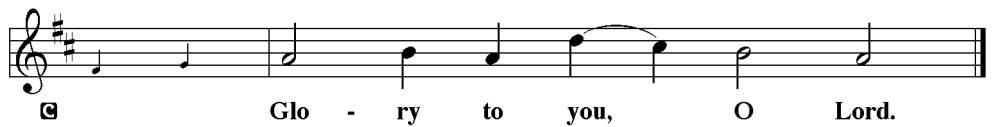


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.



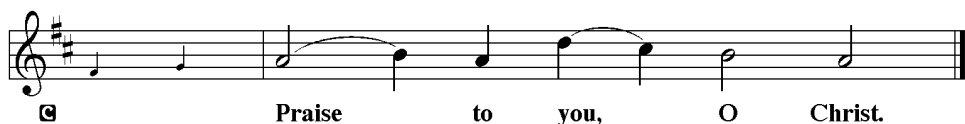
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.



Message

Andy Porter

Please stand.

HYMN

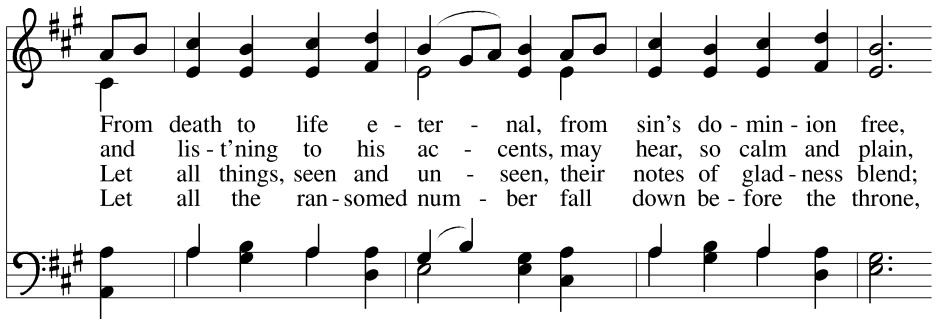
The Day of Resurrection



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in!
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

NICENE CREED

Leader: Let us confess our faith together.

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers

Assisting Minister: 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.

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,

All: Hear our prayer.

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,

All: Hear our prayer.

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, **All: Hear our prayer.**

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 those we raise to you now in need of prayer

God of grace, **All: Hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry and bless the work of our Vision Team. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

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, **All: Hear our prayer.**

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you.
Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

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.

All: Amen.

The Peace is shared with one another.

PEACE

Leader/s: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Offering

Offertory

Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir -
it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . . Blessed are you,

All: Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness

you have blessed us with these gifts.

With them we offer ourselves to your service

**and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that
you have made,**

for the sake of him who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: We pray together with confidence in the words our Savior gave us.

**All: 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

Leader: God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

All: Amen

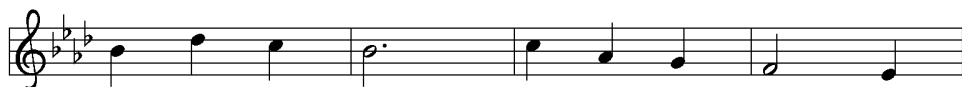
Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal:

Assisting Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Worship Leaders

Worship Leader: Andy Porter
Organist: Beth McElroy
Lector: Brian Powers
Lay Assistant: John Balas
Greeters: Danielle Ertle & Bill Smyth
Choir Director: Tassy Gilbert
Accompanist: Gail Derrer
Announcements: Amanda Balas, Office Administrator
Videographer: Steve Metzgar, Craig & Anson Cassidy

We welcome Andy Porter to the pulpit today and thank him for sharing the message. Pastor Steve was invited to preach at Reformation Lutheran in Reading as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary.

Prayer at the Rail - Stephen Ministers will be available for prayer at the altar after the service for any concerns that you might have.

Welcome Visitors! If you are visiting Christ Hamilton for the first time please pick up one of our welcome packets where you are seated. We ask that you please fill out the contact card in the packet and place it in the basket. If you are interested in joining Christ Hamilton please contact the church office 570-992-4085 or chulcsts@gmail.com
LARGE PRINT bulletins are now available, please ask an usher if you would like one.

Please Remember in Prayer: Sandy, Jim, Gloria, Jackie and Dumitru. **If you, or someone you know has been hospitalized or needs a pastoral visit please let the office know 570-992-4085.**

Next Sunday we will welcome our newest Stephen Ministers during the service: Brian Powers, Cathy Peechatka, Vicki Francis, Paula Hallock and Suzanne LaBar

Coffee Hour hosts needed! Please sign up to host coffee hour in the months of April and May. We are also taking donations of baked goods that can be frozen and used when no one has signed up. Please note: If we do not have an interest in volunteering for this ministry just coffee will be served.

PATHWalk 2024 will be held on Sunday May 5th. Registration starts at 12:30 and the walk begins at 1:30pm and is a leisurely 3 mile walk around Stroudsburg. Sign ups and sponsor lists are available at coffee hour. PATH (Pocono Area Transitional Housing) is a non-profit organization that provides temporary housing and support services for families with young children who are experiencing a housing crisis.

Food Safety Session hosted by Penn State will be held at 5pm on Tuesday, April 30th in the Lighthouse kitchen, everyone who utilizes the kitchen is encouraged to attend. For more information please contact Jane Person rjlperson@epix.net