

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
11:00 A.M.
Rev. Mark Piedmonte
Music Director – Gregory Fraser
* Congregation will stand

PRELUDE with SILENT PRAYERS: Beethoven Sonata 15 (Pastoral) 3rd Movement

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - During Covid, masks are required. There will be no singing other than by the minister and organist. At this time there is no need to stand during designated hymns. Hymn lyrics are provided as inserts so you may participate spiritually. We do not touch hymnals, friendship pads, Bibles, or offering plates. Place offering in plate upon entrance or when exiting.

APRIL MISSION MOMENT: Operation We Care and CRICKET Center

INTROIT: “Here I Am to Worship” *(See Insert to follow along)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The author of life opens our eyes.

All: The word of life opens our ears.

Leader: The risen one shows us God’s own brokenness,

All: and by those wounds we are healed.

Leader: He is Risen!

All: Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Almighty God, your power makes the sick well and the dead rise to new life. We give you thanks for the love poured into our world through Christ Jesus, who opened our minds to understand what you have made, whose appearance among his followers brings peace, and who creates faith through touch and taste. Show us Jesus, now, even more! Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: “The Joyful Eastertide” *(See Insert)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: The One who calls us to repent, hears us. In trust that our Creator knows us through and through, let us open our hearts to the healing of God’s forgiveness, praying together:

All: Good and gracious God, We repent of our failure to give as you have given to us. We ask your mercy for our fallen world. We seek your Word that we may live with the faith of Jesus. Be our solace in this life and always. We ask this as your own children, holy and incomplete. Forgive us and lead us. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Brothers and sisters, let us turn to one another and announce the assurance of God’s grace to each other:

All: In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your plea for absolution has been heard. God’s promises are sure: your sins are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*RESPONSE: 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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with all of you. **All: And also with you.**

Leader: Because Christ has done this great thing for us, we do this small thing by sharing some sign of Christ’s peace with each other.

YOUTH MESSAGE

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

SONG OF PRAISE: “The Strife Is O’er” *(See Insert)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: Let us pray: **All: Holy God, by your Spirit reveal your radical, surprising love to us. Come to us through your holy word and grant us ears to truly hear you and eyes to behold you in all God’s children.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7

Gospel: Luke 24:35b-48

Response to the reading of God’s Word:

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord! **All: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON: “Please Pass the Witness (Hold the Broiled Fish!)”

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

*HYMN: “Be Thou My Vision” *(See Insert)*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR JOYS AND CONCERNS (Please be seated)

PRAYERS FOR INTERCESSION (Responsive)

Leader: Hear us, O God; **All: your mercy is great**

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

DOXOLOGY / DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN: “We Know That Christ Is Raised” *(See Insert)*

*BENEDICTION / RESPONSE: “Go Now in Peace”

POSTLUDE: Brahms Pastorale

ANNOUNCEMENTS	
TODAY, April 18, 2021	3rd Sunday of Easter
9:00am	CONTEMPORARY Worship Service – Kortright Chapel
11:00am	Kid's Church School TRADITIONAL Worship Service – Sanctuary; Greeter is Deacon Tammy Nickell
THIS WEEK: April 19 - 24, 2021	
Monday, April 19	Sharing & Caring 6:30pm
Wednesday, April 21	Prayer Shawl Ministry 1-3pm
Thursday, April 22	Bible Study 6-7:30pm
Friday, April 23	S'more time with Jesus – Family Yoga Night 6-8pm
MARK YOUR CALENDARS	
Saturday, April 24	High School Youth Trip to Shad Landing – See below for further information; Drive-up/Deliver April Spaghetti Dinner 4-5:30
Friday, May 7	Operation We Care Packing Party 6-8pm – See notes on back

- **High School Youth Trip to Shad Landing** – Saturday, April 24th, 10:00am – 2:00pm – We are planning a teen youth trip to Shad Landing on April 24 for a day of outdoor fun and giving thanks to God for the gift of creation. Please spread the word and invite any and all high school youth. The trip is free.
- **April Dinner:** Saturday, April 24th drive-up or delivery 4-5:30pm – **Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, garlic bread, and dessert.** Please place your orders before Thursday, April 22nd using the available sign-up sheets or calling or texting Cindi Pruitt (443-880-5502). Indicate how many dinners you need as well as whether you will pick up or would like delivery. This is an outreach to our church and community. If you know of anyone who is suffering emotionally, physically, or financially, please order an extra dinner or two and share with them!
- **Youth Group Adult Leaders are Needed** – As we head into the summer, we are hoping to regroup and re-energize our youth groups for all ages – elementary, middle, and high school. If you have a passion for helping young people grow in faith, please see Pastor Mark, Lindsay, or Jerry.
- **Lord hear our Prayers** - Let's lift up to God all those in need, those who are hungry, homeless and lonely. Let's lift up those who are sick and struggling. Let's lift up those undergoing or recovering from surgeries and illnesses. Let's lift up the victims of more deadly acts of violence this week in Texas, South Carolina and right here in Maryland. Let us pray, every day: Come Lord Jesus, Come! **Amen!**



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OPERATION WE CARE PACKING PARTY for ACTIVE DELMARVA TROOPS
In Partnership with Bikers Without Borders!

Friday, May 7, 2021 6:00-8:00pm.
Rain (in Taylor Hall) or Shine (outside in the Parking Lot)

We are excited to extend our support for Operation We Care! **We will continue collecting supplies until May 7** when we hope to fill at least 50 care packages to send to our active Delmarva troops!

Here is how it will work: Between now and May 7, we will continue collecting the needed supplies (shopping lists are available at church). Then on May 7th – together with our friends from Bikers without Borders – we will host a packing party to assemble boxes for our troops. We are aiming for at least 50 boxes! This will be an all-church effort, with lots of help needed to donate, collect, pack and decorate boxes. We hope this will be the first of many efforts with Bikers Without Borders, a terrific group of men and women who *“believe that giving back to our community is our civic duty. We are motorcycle riders and non-riders that believe we can make a difference through various charitable opportunities.”*



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INTROIT: HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Open my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

And here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

OPENING HYMN: THE JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

1 This joyful Eastertide away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain:
Had Christ, who once was slain,
ne’er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain.
But now hath Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.

2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trumpets east to west shall wake the dead in number. **[Refrain]**
3 Death’s flood hath lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. **[Refrain]**

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SONG OF PRAISE: THE STRIFE IS O’ER

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The strife is o’er, the battle done;
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

2ND HYMN: BE THOU MY VISION

1.Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light
2.Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power
3.Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art
4.High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

CLOSING HYMN: WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!
2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

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3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God, the Three in One. Alleluia!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia!

WE'RE NEARING THE COVID FINISH LINE, BUT... Let's be honest: the COVID-19 pandemic is, as they say, getting old. It has been a long, hard-fought battle, I know. We are all experiencing pandemic fatigue and ready to get on with life as we know it. Miracles abound in the form of vaccinations rolling out at a faster rate than ever expected. Most of the country will soon be eligible to receive them after our most vulnerable citizens have been protected. Praise God! Let us pray that these shots will bring the spread of the virus under control – here in America and throughout the world. Indeed, we seem to be rounding the COVID corner and heading toward the finish line. **But... we're not quite yet there.** Vaccinated or not, we are still asked to wear masks in public and keep social distance (although now at a cozier three feet rather than six). We are to avoid physical contact (so keep up the elbow bumps and fist pumps) and keep those hands nice and washed. Here at church, we ask all who spend any time in the building or on the grounds to continue wearing masks at all time and keep 3 feet apart. In worship we will continue to refrain from handling hymnals, singing out loud or physically passing the peace. We continue to monitor all national, state and PCUSA health and safety cautions and recommendations and will adjust as needed. By doing so, we will continue to be a church which takes seriously our call to love God while loving our neighbors as we love ourselves. And when the day comes that the masks come off and we can sing again – watch out! A more joyful noise will have never been heard! Amen? Thanks, friends. – Pastor Mark



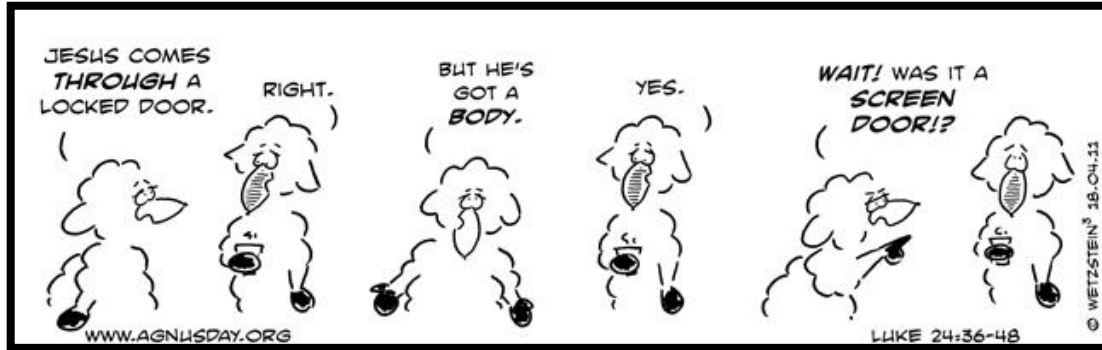
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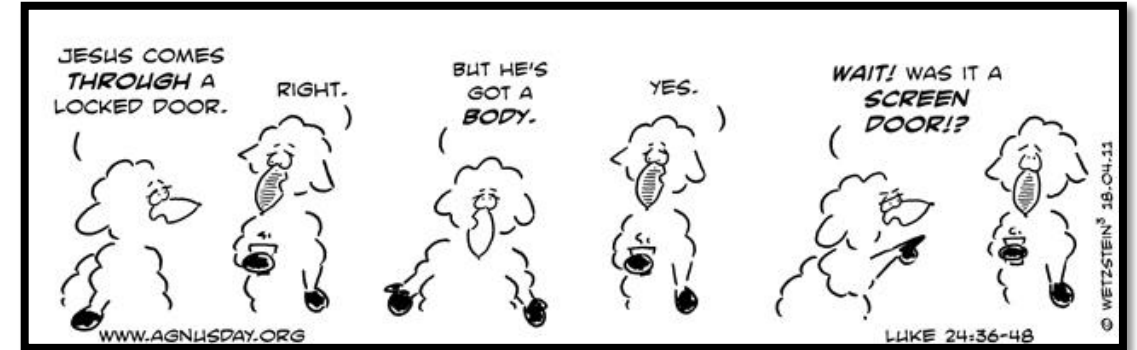
³⁶ “While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” (Luke 24:36)



“...he showed them his hands and his feet ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “*Have you anything here to eat?*” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.” (Luke 24:41-43)



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