

**Bethany Memorial Church
(Disciples of Christ)
April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter**

Welcome! As we reopen the sanctuary for worship, please ensure the safety of your church family by social distancing, wearing a face mask, and refraining from singing.

Prelude Brenda Hart

Welcome and Announcements Abby Ayers

HYMN OF PRAISE: #228 vv. 1-3 Gross Pointe Methodist Church Choir
"The Day of Resurrection!"

The day of resurrection!! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil, that we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
And, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth its song begin!
The round world keep high triumph and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that has no end.

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Abby Ayers

*Our Father/Mother 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, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

JOYS AND CONCERNS PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Sharon Watkins

SCRIPTURE READING

Abby Ayers

Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he 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? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant^[b] Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And 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^c has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

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

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you. They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look 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." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC
SERMON

Brenda Hart
Rev. Watkins

"To All Nations"

WE PARTAKE AT GOD'S HOLY TABLE

CALL TO OFFERING

Abby Ayers

DOXOLOGY AND OFFERING PRAYER

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

COMMUNION INVITATION
THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER OF THE ELDER

Vonnie Larson
Vonnie Larson

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

FELLOWSHIP OF COMMUNION

Please partake of the bread and cup – one in the Spirit.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

CLOSING HYMN #222 vv.1-3

"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

Christ is risen! Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.
In the desert, all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of life unknown.
Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning, See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the first and last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Rev. Watkins
Brenda Hart

WELCOME!
We are glad you're here, and hope you find
God's presence in this place as we worship together.

Pastor
Liturgist
Elder
Music

Greeter
Videographer

Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins
Abby Ayers
Vonnie Larson
Vicki NeCastro
Brenda Hart
Penny Tittle
Connie McVicar

PRAYER LIST

Christian love and sympathy to David George and family on the passing of Edward "Ned" George, David's father.

All those affected by Covid-19 both in our community and beyond:

Karley Trinidad

Marci Mazza-Fredley

Penny Tittle

RuthAnn Yost

Karol Puskarich

The Wasser family (friends of Vicki NeCastro)

Mike Cunningham (Sydma's Dad)

Jean McVicar (Mother-in-Law of Connie McVicar)

Mary Ann Eisenhauer

Ed Rodgers (Vicki NeCastro's father)

Gary and Vonnie Larson

Ashley Pietrangelo, niece of Penny Tittle

Mark and Donna Sutherland, brother and sister-in-law of Pat Sutherland

Lynn Cowell, brother of Shirley Kemp

Nancy Pietrangelo (sister of Penny Tittle)

Jackie Andrews

Jeanne Cobb

David Gnatek (brother-in-law of Holly Hillgardner)

Tammy Ritchea

Ruth Tye, Jeannie Sarg Tye, and Jay Tye

Jack Hoffman

Perry Jones, Jr.

Jeffrey Yost

Caden Knisley

Ellen Sanford

Mary Jane Jackson

Holly, Frank, and Sharley Hillgardner

Donna Norman (Becky Ayers' sister)

Dottie Smith

Linda Owens Walters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today - April 18 – Faithful Conversation with the Christian Church of Wilkinsburg at 1:30 pm on Zoom.

The facilitator will be one of the Wilkinsburg church's African American young people, Tenaaja is a senior in high school in a predominantly Caucasian school district. She wrote to her school board about the racial inequities she experienced and lack of teachers of color as well as stories and faces of people of color in the curriculum. If you would like to attend and need a ZOOM invitation, text Sydma immediately at 304-639-1600.

Bible Study will take place on Monday, April 19, at 7:15 pm via Zoom. Participants will be notified of the scripture to be discussed. If you would like to participate, contact the Church office for the Zoom link.

Mid-Week Prayer Meeting will take place on Thursdays of each week at 6:30pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend, call the church office so we can make sure you receive a Zoom invitation.

Congregational Board Meeting – Monday, April 19 at 6:00 pm via Zoom. All Board members should plan on attending.

Food Pantry – Let's keep the front porch food pantry stocked! Those in need appreciate it.