

April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

PRELUDES

*God's Strong Arm Protects
There is a Fountain*

*Sewell
Pethel*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

CHORAL INTROIT #742 *We Will Walk with God* *Sizohamba Naye*
***We will walk with God, my brothers; we will walk with God. We will walk
with God, my sisters; we will walk with God. We will go rejoicing till the
kingdom has come. We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.***

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RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 4)

One: The Lord hears us when we call:

All: Come, let us put our trust in God.

One: The Lord grants peace to our weary souls:

All: Come, let us rest by the quiet waters of God's grace.

One: The Lord fills our hearts with gladness:

All: Come, let us sing God's praises with shouts of joy!

***OPENING SONG #410**

God Is Calling through the Whisper
(verse 1)

W Żłobie Leży

***God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs, through
the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise. Flash of
lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder: God is
calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?***

(verse 2)

***God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair. Place
of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading: God is
calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?***

(verse 3)

***God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts, through
the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts. Lift of joy
and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing: God is
calling—and we hear? God is calling—and we hear!***

Text by Mary Louise Bringle / ©2006 GIA Publications, Inc. / Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-722956

CALL TO CONFESSION

To repent is to turn away from sin and turn toward Christ Jesus. Scripture promises that when we confess, God hears our cries and wipes away our sin. Trusting in God's promises of new life, let us confess our sins and the sin of this world:

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Risen Christ, we are often troubled by our doubts; but they do not trouble you. You do not require perfect understanding; instead, you reveal yourself to us again and again that we might come to know you. Forgive us when our doubts keep us stuck, when fear prevents us from loving all creation as you call us to do. Help us to accept the peace you so graciously offer to us. Have mercy on us when we hoard or hide it, when we fail to offer it to others. Renew us and make us whole that in this world of strife we may be bearers of your peace. In resurrection hope we pray, Amen.

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (from I John 3)

One: "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are." Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are claimed by God, forgiven of our sins, and set free for love.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE #743

O God, You Are My God *Step by Step*

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

By David Strasser (Beaker) / ©1991 by BMG Songs, Inc. / CCL #11043756

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (adapted from Philippians 3)

One: All that we seek to accomplish, all that we strive to achieve, all that we claim to possess – all this amounts to nothing without the grace of Christ. May his peace be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Redeeming God, as we hear your Word spoken to us, open our eyes to see the risen Christ, open our ears to hear the good news of his salvation for all the world, and open our minds to understand the mysteries of your love. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING (Responsive)

Psalm 40:1-5

One: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

All: He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

One: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

All: Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

*Please stand as you are able.

One: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.

All: Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Were You There?
Director: Don Sullivan

Althouse

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Acts 3:1-10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴ Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

SERMON

"The Church: Participating in Healing" Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Romans 8)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Peace Within These Walls

Paxton

PRAYER OF DEDICATION / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***SENDING SONG #2115**

Christ Has Risen

Holy Manna

(verse 1)

Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died, as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied. Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer; let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!

(verse 2)

Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save; Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave. Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room. He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

(verse 4)

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange. Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been — evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

Go With Us Lord

Cathay

POSTLUDE

Bread of Heaven

Jordan

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Meal

Tuesday, April 16

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.



Community Meal

This month, we are doing another throwback meal with recipes contributed by some of our favorite folks, taken from the Charm O'The Barn Cookbook.

Menu: Baked Chicken Soufflé (Marge Davies), Mashed Potato Casserole (Peg Irish), Romaine and Strawberry Salad (Lin Wilson), Chocolate Chip Bars (Audrey Weatherhead)

If you are interested in helping, we will be cooking meals from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; assembling from 3-4 p.m.; and distributing / delivering from 4-5:30 p.m. In addition, if you would like to bake chocolate chip bars (your recipe of choice or obtain recipe from office) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on April 16th. See the April Valley Voice or website to sign up to volunteer or for the meal.

Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group. We will be knitting special items like prayer shawls, blankets, and other helpful and comforting items for our members and people in our community.

The group will meet three different times each month in the Church Library; so folks can come when their schedule allows. Our first meeting will be the second Sunday of the month - April 14 at 12:15 p.m. after the 10:30 a.m. service. This will be an informational meeting and a time for folks to get started on their first project. If you can, please bring size 8 knitting needles with you.

Our monthly schedule will be:

2nd Sunday of the month — 12:15 - 2:00 p.m.

3rd Tuesday of the month — 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

4th Wednesday of the month — 10:30 a.m. - noon

Please attend as often as you can. Look forward to having you be a part of this ministry.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl

502-553-7255

Bev Keough

330-888-5385

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



April is Movie Snack Pack Month - ingredients for s'mores; popcorn; chips; cookies; candy; etc. or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

Focus on Health

“Improving Your Outlook on Mental Wellness”

Saturday, April 27, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

St. Mark's

22111 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood

\$10 in advance, \$12 at door

Make reservations by Monday, April 22nd at:

suzancp@yahoo.com or 440-269-1465

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, May 17, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, May 18, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at
440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

Heart of Valley Preschool
Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Marilyn Rodenhausen

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Dusty Timmons