



*March 31, 2024*

*10:00AM*

*St. John's United Church of Christ  
Orwigsburg, PA  
Pastor Jeff Johnson*

# Easter Sunday

## March 31, 2024

### Meditation

“There is nothing in this world – sin, hate, frustration, pain, sorrow, evil or death itself – that can defeat you if you are in Him, for He is “the resurrection and the life.” And so are you, if you are in Him.” Norman Vincent Peale

### Chimes

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### ✠ Opening Hymn #288 (vs 1,3,4)

*“Christ the Lord is Risen”*

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
All creation, join to say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where O death is now thy sting Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save Alleluia!  
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

## **Lifting up our Joys**

### **Passing of the Peace**

#### **✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)**

This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

**Hallelujah!**

This is the good news—once we were no people; now we are God's people.

**Hallelujah!**

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

**Hallelujah!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

#### **✠ Opening Prayer**

##### **✠ Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and have not made you the focus of our lives. Forgive us, that we may be your faithful and faith-filled people, giving Christ a central focus and serving him always.**

*(Silent reflection)*

**Amen.**

##### **✠ Assurance of Forgiveness**

God is merciful. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Feel the healing, loving power of God in your lives, for it is given to you through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Children's Message**

Pastor Jeff

**Bible Readings**

*Isaiah 25: 6-9; John 20:1-18*

Ellen Kirby

**Choir Anthem**

*My Lord, What a Morning* - arr. Robert Lau

**Message**

*"Sunday's Here!"*

Pastor Jeff

### **✠Statement of Faith- Philippians 2: 5-11**

Pastor: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

**All: Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

### **Giving our Gifts to God**

**Offertory**

*"Wonderful Merciful Savior"*

Duet – Janae Sanchez and Adriana Campos

### **✠Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Special Music**

*"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"*

Natalie Guerrero, Janae Sanchez, and Adriana Campos

## ✠ Invitation to the Table

### ✠ Communion Prayer

Pastor Jeff

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, and to worship you in every place where your glory abides. By your power you raised Jesus from death to life. Through his victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God.

In his rising to life you promise eternal life to all who believe in him. We praise you that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us. And so we join with all creation to praise you in song:

### ✠ Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

*(the congregation may be seated)*

### Words of Institution

Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

### The Blessing of the Elements

Pastor Jeff

## Prayers of the People

### **The Lord's Prayer** (*unison*)

**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 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**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Prepare your hearts, for all things are ready.

### **Partaking of the Elements**

Take and eat; in remembrance of the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**  
Take and drink; the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

### **✠Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with  
Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal  
kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise  
and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **✠Closing Hymn #310 (vs 1 & 2) “Thine is the Glory”**

Thine is the glory  
Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won  
Angels in bright raiment  
Rolled the stone away  
Kept the folded grave clothes  
Where Thy body lay  
Thine is the glory  
Risen conquering Son

Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won

Lo! Jesus meets us  
Risen from the tomb  
Lovingly, He greets us  
Scatters fear and gloom  
Let his church with gladness  
Hymns of triumph sing,  
For her Lord now liveth,  
Death hath lost its sting.  
Thine is the glory  
Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won

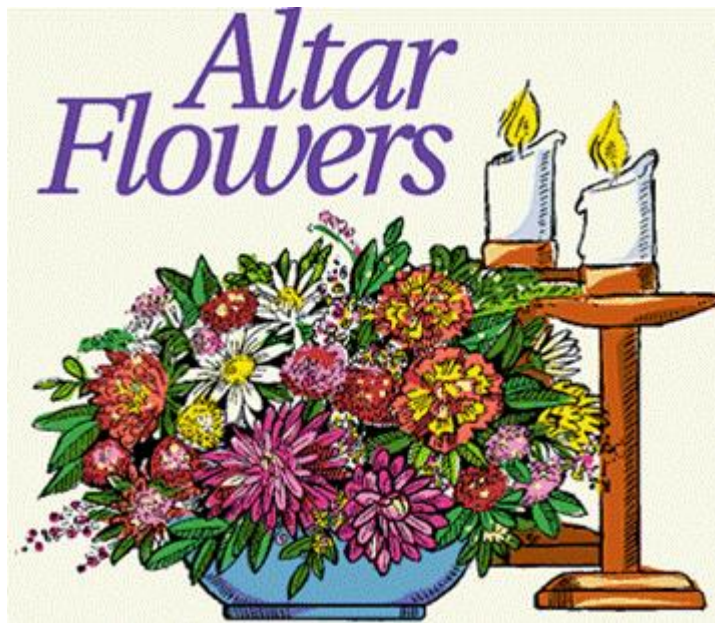
✠ **Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

✠ **Threefold Amen**

✠ **Chimes/Meditation**

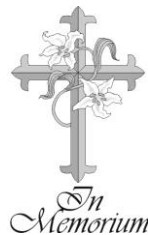
**Postlude**

*“Easter Song”*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God,  
in memory of Loved Ones.*

*Presented by Sue & Ricci Hartman*



*The Outside Blooming Cross Flowers are given to  
the Glory of God, in memory of Loved Ones.*

*Presented by Eileen & Harlan Rump  
and Barb Skelding*





**In Honor of....**

- ❖ All Members – Presented by Susan McCartney
- ❖ Mardelle Deibert, Barbara Berger, Peg Berger-Presented by Gale & Mary Ann Sterner
- ❖ Sons, Joe, Mark & Pete-Presented by Beverly Onuskanich
- ❖ Our Family-Jeff & Barb Marrongelle
- ❖ Our Grandchildren-Presented by Sue & Ricci Hartman
- ❖ Our Children, Alee, Jack, Nick & Joe-Presented by Brenda & Jamie Barton
- ❖ Children, Christopher & Caitlin Brossman-Presented by Ellen Kirby
- ❖

**In Loving Memory Of....**

- ❖ Husband, Jerry-Presented by Peg Berger
- ❖ Father Jerry-Presented by Kris Berger
- ❖ D.J. & David-Presented by Parents Ron & Deb Tohill
- ❖ Bright & Mary Berger-Presented by Gale & Mary Ann Sterner
- ❖ Willis Berger, Jay Berger, Jerry Berger, Ruby Berger, & Fred Deibert-Presented by Gale & Mary Ann Sterner
- ❖ Joe Onuskanich-Presented by Onuskanich Family
- ❖ Our Loved Ones-Presented by Marrongelle Family
- ❖ Grandparents & Great Grandparents-Presented by Christopher & Caitlin Brossman
- ❖ Loved Ones-Presented by Sue & Ricci Hartman
- ❖ Grandparents George & Esther Fryer, Parents Joyce & Bob Frantz, Brother Gary Frantz-Presented by Glen & Ethan Frantz
- ❖ Ray Gaston-Presented by Ruth Gaston
- ❖ Gil Dominick-Presented by Brenda & Jamie Barton
- ❖ Rev. Jack & Anne Barton-Presented by Brenda & Jamie Barton
- ❖ Son, Craig-Presented by Ruth Ann & Mo Moyer
- ❖ Great Granddaughter, Isabella-Presented by Ruth Ann & Mo Moyer
- ❖ Loved Ones-Presented by Ellen Kirby & Kevin Bound