

Welcome! We're glad you joined us today.

Whether you're a first-time visitor, a longtime member or you join us from time to time, we're delighted to celebrate Sunday worship with you. If you have any questions about the church, an usher or member of consistory with a blue name tag will be happy to assist you.

We offer a nursery for all infants and toddlers, and nursery room leaders can contact parents on their cell phones if any issue arises. We also offer Church School most weeks for children two and up. Children of any age are welcome to stay throughout the service, but parents with a restless child may choose to listen to the service in the Narthex or Choir Room, both outfitted with speakers. Ask an usher to direct you.

Restrooms are available in the parlor off the Narthex; inside the Choir Room; at the bottom of the staircase next to the Choir Room; near the Senior Minister's office; and in the administrative wing between the church office and the Calvin Room. A fully accessible restroom is located next to the Copenhaver Room. Please follow signs or ask ushers for assistance.

Today's Ushers and Greeters

Before the service, Muriel Aragona and Deacon Tiffany Tinson are greeting in the Narthex, and Joe Aragona is greeting at the Cloister door near the Choir Room. Immediately following worship, Elder Dale Walker and The Reverend Dr. Steven D. Pierce will be greeting in the Narthex, and Tiffany Tinson and Elizabeth Bauer will be greeting in the Edwards Room.

Today is the third Sunday of Eastertide. The Chancel is adorned with white paraments (from the Latin paramentum, meaning "adornments") to commemorate this season of joy and resurrection. Thanks to our Chancel Guild for preparing our Sanctuary for worship.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Sunday, April 30, 2017

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *Prelude in G Major, BWV 541* J.S. Bach

INTROIT *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord

P: Maker of heaven and earth.

L: Praise the Lord!

P: The Lord's name be praised.

***HYMN 495** *We Know That Christ Is Raised* ENGLEBERG

*GATHERING PRAYER

(The congregation shall be seated at the conclusion of the Gathering Prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Risen Lord of all times and places:

We confess your thoughts are not our thoughts,

your ways are not our ways,

and you are lifted high above our little lives.

Help us turn from sin and despair.

Rule our minds and renew our ways,

so that in mercy we may be drawn near you;

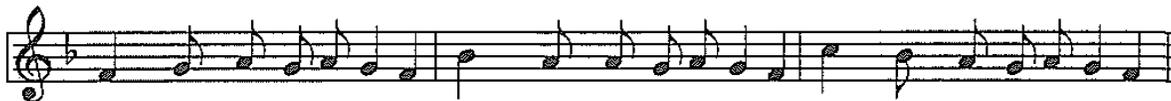
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.

(Silence is kept for personal confession.)

**indicates that those who are able may stand*

ALL SING:



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

Hear the good news...

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*HYMN 579

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

CHANCEL TALK

(After the Chancel Talk, students are invited to attend Church School.)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION

*BAPTISMAL CREED – *The Apostles' Creed*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess with us the
faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with
us in his eternal grace.**

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

***HYMN 498**

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (Verses 1 & 4)

KINGDOM

1. Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, Bap - tized with the Spir - it's sign,
4. Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, Learn to lis - ten for God's call.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you Un - to love and grace di - vine.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, Trust and love God more than all.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system contains two verses of lyrics. The second system contains two lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24:13-35 (Pew Bible, pg. 860)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"As Willie Nelson Would Say..."

The Rev. Dr. Steven D. Pierce

*HYMN

Stay With Us

Herbert Brokering & Walter Pelz

**Stay with us, till night has come:
Our praise to you this day be sung.
Bless our bread, open our eyes:
Jesus, be our great surprise.**

**Walk with us, our spirits sigh:
hear when our weary spirits cry.
Feel again our loss, our pain:
Jesus, take us to your side.**

**Walk with us, the road will bend:
make all our weeping, wailing end.
Wipe our tears, forgive our fears:
Jesus, lift the heavy cross.**

**Talk with us till we behold
a joyful life you will unfold:
Heal our eyes to see the prize:
Jesus, take us to the light.**

**Stay with us, till day is done:
no tears nor dark shall dim the sun:
Cheer the heart, your grace impart.
Jesus, bring eternal life.**

GREETING AND COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

SHARING OUR FRIENDSHIP AND GIFTS

*(As we prepare to receive the offering, please sign the Friendship Pad,
pass it along your pew, and greet each other following worship.)*

OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

*Alleluia! O Praise the Lord Most Holy,
from Cantata No. 207a*

J.S. Bach

***HYMN 592**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (DOXOLOGY) OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

***HYMN 442**

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

*BENEDICTION

*All are encouraged to enjoy the postlude, and are welcome to come to the Chancel
to listen. For those who wish to leave, please do so quietly in respect for others.*

CHORAL

RESPONSE

Amen

Orlando Gibbons

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G Major, BWV 541

J.S. Bach

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

The Reverend Dr. Steven D. Pierce
The Reverend Cari Pattison
The Reverend Jonah Smith-Bartlett
The Reverend Samuel T. Clover
Ellie Urstadt, Elder Assisting at Baptism
Dr. Sándor Szabó, Minister of Music
The Chancel Choir

BOOK OF LIFE

Baptisms Today
James Robert Martin Civale, son of Amy and Anthony Civale
William Joseph DeYoung, son of Elizabeth Kawalek and Nicholas DeYoung

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS IN PRAYER

Ongoing challenges with cancer, chronic disease or other health conditions:

Tony Civale
Richard Pink
Peter Mancuso
Sally Nazzaro
Bassie Ramsawak
Eunice Reed
Rose Saltzberg
Casimira Stricker

Friends and families of the following individuals who have died:

Evelyn Potter
Walter J. Fraser, Jr. (father of Jay Fraser and grandfather of Nanda Fraser)
The Reverend Rodney J. Koopmans (father of Lara Hiller)
Hans Peyer
Betty Hewitt
Mary Lou Rohrbaugh Wilt (mother of Anne Poorman)
Enrico DiLello (father of Alexis Mastromarino)
Doris Blair
John Corry

*To add a name to this prayer list, please contact The Reverend Cari Pattison,
cari@reformedchurch.org.*

Names will be kept on the public prayer list for two months.