

April 17, 2022  
Easter Sunday

*~Gathering Together~*

Prelude                      “Now Winter Fades from Sight”                      J.S. Bach

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Call to Worship

Pastor: Praise God, who brings life out of death and hope out of despair.

**People: Praise God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead.**

Pastor: Praise God, who gathers up the fragments left by human destruction and creates new possibilities.

**People: Christ has risen!**

Pastor: Christ has risen indeed!

Opening Hymn                      “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”                      NCH # 233

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Mortals tongues and angels say: Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Let the Victor’s people sing, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!  
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!  
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!  
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

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

*~ Coming Alive in Community ~*

Call to Confession

Easter morning takes us by surprise, awakening us to the doubt and despair that have been rooted in our lives. Let us now confess to God.

Prayer of Confession

**If, at times, we deny you: God forgive. If at times, when the risks of discipleship are high, we are nowhere to be found: God forgive. If, at times, we wash our hands of responsibility: God forgive. If, at times, we cast our lot with powerful oppressors and seek to buy freedom with silver: God forgive. If, at times, fear keeps us from witnessing to your truth, or prejudice keeps us from believing it: God forgive.**

**In the bright light of Easter morning, our sin is exposed, but your grace is revealed. Tender God, we are bold to come before you and ask you to forgive us. Help us to leave behind our foolish doubt so that with joy we may witness to your awesome deeds in Jesus the Risen One. Amen.**

*Silence for Prayer and Reflection*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: In raising Jesus from the dead, God has brought life and immortality to light. And hear the good news: By God's great mercy, we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. In the name of Jesus, I say to you: Our sins are forgiven. All things are made new. Doubt no more; Christ is with us always. Alleluia! Amen.

Special Music "I'll Shout the Name of Christ Who Lives"

Chancel Choir & Michaela Craner, Flute

Vinluan/Wolgemuth © 1983; Vinluan & Tabayoyong / Music arr. Dan Wolgemuth © 2022 First Run Music Psalter (ASCAP)

*~ We Hear God's Word ~*

Scripture Lessons

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25

Louise Hine

The Reading of Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

The Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection

"Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

NCH#241

Joy dawned again on Easter Day,  
the sun shone out with bright array;  
For when the Apostles hid in fear,  
the Risen Christ to them appeared.

O Jesus, Savior, Gentle One,  
come take our hearts to be your own,  
That we may give you all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise.

O Sovereign One, with us abide  
in this our joyful Eastertide;  
From every weapon death can wield,  
your own redeemed forever shield.

~ *Sharing Blessings With Others* ~

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

Minister: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

**All: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering our Gifts - Thank you for your faithful support of Shenkel's ongoing ministries

*The Pottstown Cluster - The Cluster's current programs provide food security, clothing and household assistance, supportive services and referrals, case management and housing stability and an opportunity for individuals living in poverty to participate in an education and support program.*

Offering Response

"Halle, Halle, Halleluja"

NCH # 236

Halle, halle, hallelujah. \_Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. \_Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Prayer of Dedication

~ *Holy Communion* ~

Invitation

Pastor: Luke, the evangelist, wrote of our risen Savior, who at the table with two of the disciples took bread and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

**People: In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.**

Communion Prayer

Minister: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to God.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Because you have done the completely unexpected deed, . . .  
Jesus our risen Christ and Savior. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread, The Pouring of the Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymns during Sharing

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain: When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

My God, have mercy on me.  
Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
Let us drink wine together on our knees. (Refrain)

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees. (Refrain)

Come and Fill  
Come and fill our hearts with your love.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your love, alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Let us pray.

**All: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

*~ Going out in Joy ~*

Sending Hymn

"The Day of Resurrection"

NCH # 245

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
the Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;  
We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,  
for we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.

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

Benediction

Postlude

"The Strife is O'er"

Palestrina, arr. Broughton

## *Announcements*

The Prayer Community asks you to join with us this week in praying for:

Maryln Rohrbach  
Kathy Murphy  
Mark Dushanko  
Louise Hine  
Kelli Sorg

### *~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~*

Sun., 4/17 ~Easter Dawn service at Temple Methodist church at 6:30 am.  
~ Easter Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am  
Tues., 4/19 ~ Midday Dinner Club at Vincenzo's at noon  
Thurs., 4/21 ~ Agape at 6:45 pm

### *~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~*

Sun., 4/24 ~ Holy Humor Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.  
~ Holy Humor Worship service in the sanctuary at 9:45 am  
~ Ursinus Association Spring Meeting 3 pm

Scripture Readings for April 24:

Psalm 150; Revelations 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

**Pottstown Cluster.** This month's items are adult lotion, deodorant, feminine tampons, laundry detergent. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. We will be collecting each week and items will change on a monthly basis. Items for next month will be dish soap, multi-purpose cleaners, toilet paper.

### **Ukrainian Relief**

Every Sunday through Easter, you can make a donation for Ukrainian Relief through Shenkel. You can include your donation with your envelope or separately. Just mark your contribution as "Ukraine" and we will send those funds through the Conference also. The funds will be sent through the Conference through the Hungarian Reformed Church Aid.

Let us continue to keep the Ukrainian people in our prayers.

**Mid-day Dinner club** will be meeting at Vincenzo's on Tuesday, April 19 at noon. It is open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better. If you are attending, please add your name and phone number on the sign up sheet no later than Sunday, April 17 so your reservation can be made on time or you may call Sharon Sabo at 610-326-1945 or let her know at the Sunday service if you are able to attend.