



Second Sunday of Easter April 11, 2021 at 11:00 am

Welcome to Oakmont Presbyterian Church!

*We are pleased to have you join us for worship today.
So that you may feel at home with us, please note the following:*

Visitor Parking spaces may be found in the Dogwood Way parking lot and across the street in the Oak Ridge Condo parking lot.

The Marie Berg Chapel (adjacent to the 5th Street vestibule) is available for use as a cry room. Ask Ushers for directions

Large Print Bulletins and **Children’s Worship bags** are available from the ushers
To preserve the atmosphere of worship, **please turn off** all cell phones and other electronics.

An asterisk (*) in the worship liturgy indicates that all may stand, if able.

Service Dogs are used by several of our members. Please do not pet them when harnessed.

Hearing Assistance - Our sanctuary has two options for those needing hearing assistance: **receivers with headphones** which are available from the AV Team at the soundboard and **Bluetooth/WiFi Assisted Listening System** for use with smartphones (headphones or earbuds required) or Bluetooth hearing aids. *To utilize the Bluetooth/WiFi system:* 1) join the sanctuary WiFi network – OPCAV; 2) enter the password Oak\$\$1522; 3) on your smart phone download WaveCast APP from the Google Play or Apple Store; 4) Open WaveCAST app and click on “Service Broadcast.” (If “Service Broadcast” is not listed, fully close the app and try again. Audio will start playing automatically upon selection.

GATHERING IN FAITH

Reflection in Preparation for Worship

The earliest reference to the Resurrection is Saint Paul’s, and he makes no mention of an empty tomb at all. But the fact of the matter is that in a way it hardly matters how the body of Jesus came to be missing because in the last analysis what convinced the people that He had risen from the dead was not the absence of His corpse but His living presence. And so it has been ever since.

Frederick Buechner, *The Faces of Jesus*

Prelude

Michael Frank

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP’S CREEK/arr. James Biery

*We walk by faith, and not by sight. No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e’er spoke; but we believe Him near.*

– Henry Alford

Welcome

Don Ewing

Introit

Quartet

This Joyful Eastertide

J. Oudaen’s *David’s Psalmen*, 1685

*This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sadness!
Our Lord, the Crucified, has filled our hearts with gladness.*

*Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three-day prison,
our faith would be in vain.*

But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen!

- George Ratcliffe Woodward (alt.)

Call to Worship

Don Ewing

Leader: We worship in the Easter light

People: for the shadow of death is no match for God's love.

Leader: Let us join our voices with the disciple Thomas:

People: "My Lord and my God!"

Leader: Easter people, Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Hymn of Praise

Please join in singing, at home

The Day of Resurrection

Hymnal, No. 118

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

**Our hearts be pure from 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 the song begin,
Let the round world keep 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 hath no end.**

Words: John of Damascus (c.675-749)/Trans. John Mason Neale, 1862

Music: *LANCASHIRE* – Henry Thomas Smart, c. 1835

Prayer of the Day

Don Ewing

Call to Confession

Steve Wilson

Prayer of Confession

**O Christ, You rose from the depths of suffering from death itself, to breathe peace upon
Your disciples. Still, O Lord, we cannot trust Your promise of peace. Still, O Lord, we
do not follow in the way of Your love.**

....moment of silent prayer

**Risen Lord, forgive us when we fail to be people of resurrection. Forgive us when we fail
to recognize Your grace. Show us Your hands and Your feet once more, and teach us to
be Your body in the world.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Leader: God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in
Him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into
the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through
Him. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.*

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Act of Praise

Quartet

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Tanzanian melody

*Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.*

*Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!*

*"Go spread the news: He's not in the grave. He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done. Even the battle with sin is won."
- Bernard Kyamanywa, 1966; trans. Howard S. Olson, 1969*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Don Ewing

The Lesson

Acts 4:32-35

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

The Response

Psalm 133

Don Ewing

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

**People: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard
of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

Leader: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

People: For there the Lord ordained His blessing, life forevermore.

The Gospel

John 20:19-31

Steve Wilson

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

How Thomas Helps Us Live Our Faith

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Ministry of Music

Quartet

We Walk by Faith

Lloyd Larson

*We walk by faith, and not by sight. No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke; but we believe Him near.
We may not touch His hands and side, nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise, we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
We walk by faith, and not by sight, led by God's pure and holy Light!
Prepare us for the journey, Lord, and may we know Your pow'r and might,
as we walk by faith and not by sight.
Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near, and seek where You are found:
That, when our life, life of faith is done, in realms of clear, clearer light
We may behold You as You are, with full and endless sight.*

- based on *John 20:19-29*, Henry Alford, Lloyd Larson

Faith Community & Other Concerns, the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Don Ewing

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

Hymn of Dedication
Thine Is the Glory

Please join in singing, at home
Hymnal, No. 122

**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.**

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]**

**No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without Thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. [Refrain]**

Refrain:

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.**

Words: Edmond Louis Budry, 1884/Trans R. Birch Hoyle, 1923; alt.
Music: *JUDAS MACCABEUS* – George Frederick Handel, 1748

Charge and Blessing

Steve Wilson

Postlude

Fantasia for Eastertide

Michael Frank

arr. Albin C. Whitworth

(a medley – *Christ the Lord Has Risen Today* and *Christ Arose*)

Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed! During the days of Easter (Easter-tide), we remember Christ's rising from the tomb, His post-resurrection appearances, His ascension, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This is the most festive period of the church year filled with great joy and renewal. White is the official liturgical color for the season, but accents of gold may also be used to celebrate this joyous and festive time during the Easter season.

The Paschal Candle – represents the risen Christ, who passed from darkness to light, to become *the light* shining in the darkness (John 1:5), and it is the corollary of the pillar of fire in the Hebrew exodus. Traditionally, it is the largest candle used in the church and it stands at a central place. The Paschal Candle is lit throughout the **Great Fifty Days** (from Easter to Pentecost) and at Baptisms, Funerals or Memorial Services.

The Quartet:

- Soprano – Diane McNally
- Alto – Sally Haleen
- Tenor – Ken Crawford
- Bass – Doug Crist

Music reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense.net A-726321. All rights reserved.

Your OPC Family Cares About You! Because there are times when you are ill, in the hospital or in emotional need and we don't know about it, please remember to contact the church office (412.828.5770) or a staff member (mstecik@oakmontpresby.org) so we may support you in your time of need. You are loved!

Prayer Requests - Members of our church will pray for you and anyone in need. Please send prayer requests to: prayers@oakmontpresby.org or contact Carol Heimerich at 412-242-1028.

Why not listen to Sunday morning (9:15 am) educational speakers? Send Steve Wilson an email at swilson@oakmontpresby.org asking to be added to the zoom invitations.

April 18 – Leanna Fuller on Family Systems

April 25 – “Spiritual Bridge People”, a conversation with Krista Tippett, Bishop Michael Curry and Dr. Russell Moore.

Sundays in May – Rev. Dr. James Davison, “Insights from Four Old Testament Books”

May 2 - The Message of Amos: But He’s Not a Prophet!

May 9 - The Story of Ruth: So, Who’s the Real Hero?

May 16 - The Prophet Habakkuk: Can a Grumbler Change?

May 23 - The Book of Jonah: A *Comedy* in the Old Testament!

Worship in Eastertide

April 18, 11 am – Rev. Steve Wilson preaching the message *Dear Maynard* based on Luke 24:36b-48

OPC STAFF

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| The Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson | Senior Pastor |
| The Rev. Dr. Donald R. Ewing | Parish Associate |
| Michael P. Frank, III | Director of Music Ministries/Organist |
| Ronnie Bailey | Education Director for Children and Youth |
| Maureen Stecik | Program Staff Assistant |
| Dale Remai | Custodian |
| Tracy Messenger | Financial Secretary of Accounting |
| Marge Kuhn | Financial Secretary of Contributions |
| Roberta Erickson | Handbell Choir Director |
| Ron Burkert | AV Team Coordinator |
| Tracy Messenger and Carol Huber | Nursery Attendants |

415 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oakmont, PA 15139

412-828-5770 (Office)

www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org