



**THE FESTIVAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP
IN CELEBRATION OF
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**



Eleven O'clock, March 23, 2008

"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said!" Matthew 28:6

Pastor: Dr. James E. Swanson Liturgist: Mr. Arthur Forbes
Organist / Choir Director: Miss Beverly Antis

THE FESTIVAL PRELUDE

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| <i>This Joyful Eastertide</i> | Organ | Andrew Clarke |
| <i>O Sons and Daughters of the King</i> | arr. S. Drummond Wolff
Brass Quartet and Organ | |
| <i>Prelude on "Hail Thee, Festival Day"</i> | Organ | Charles Callahan |
| <i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing</i> | arr. S. Drummond Wolff
Brass Quartet and Organ | |
| <i>Trio on "Hail Thee, Festival Day"</i> | Organ | Charles Callahan |
| <i>The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done</i> | arr. S. Drummond Wolff
Brass Quartet and Organ | |
| <i>Partita on "At the Lamb's High Feast"</i> | Organ | John Ferguson |
| <i>Gaudeamus!</i> | Brass Quartet and Organ | Richard Proulx |
| <i>Alleluias</i> | Organ | Robert Lau |

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION

The Leader: Christ is risen! Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
The People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 123 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE INVITATION TO CONFESSION

THE PUBLIC PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, who on this day brought from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ: we confess that we have not lived in the certainty of Easter's triumph. Our Savior reigns, yet we have not trusted Him fully. The powers of darkness have been defeated, yet our hearts have been faint with fear. Nothing can separate us from the sure embrace of Your everlasting arms, yet we have doubted Your promises and neglected the things which belong to our peace.

Pardon us, we pray, and restore to us the joy of Your salvation. Come to us in whom faith falters, and renew our conviction with the wondrous words, "Christ is risen!" In His name we pray.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! The powers of darkness have been put to flight and the chains of death have been removed.

The People: **The Lord chastens us but does not surrender us to defeat. He is our deliverer and in him we win the battle.**

The Leader: Worshipping friends, believe the Good News!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen and amen.**

*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *Common Worship, 2000-2006*

We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan earth and heaven sprang to being; all created things began.

We believe in Christ the Savior, Son of God in human frame, virgin-born, the child of Mary, upon whom the Spirit came.

Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led, suffered under Pontius Pilate; he descended to the dead.

We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign, to the Father's side ascended, 'til as judge he comes again.

We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above: saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love.

So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Savior, Lord and friend, we shall rise with him in glory, to the life that knows no end.

*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Donald Fishel

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 31:1-6 (*Pew Bible p. 695*)

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE ANTHEM *Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day* Charles M. Hobbs

THE EPISTLE LESSON Acts 10:34-43 (*Pew Bible p. 123*)

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of the Epistle. All: **Praise be to you, O Lord.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

Six Fold Amen

Robert Lau

THE OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow:
Praise Him all creatures here below:
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, who in the resurrection of Jesus Christ has given us victory, we yield our lives and our substance to you. Consecrate these tithes and offerings and empower us through the ministries you have given, to work so that your Kingdom is established and Christ's triumph is announced wherever there is need. Unto you and you alone do we give all the glory and honor. Amen.

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10

(Pew Bible p. 31)

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord. All: **Glory to You, O Christ.**

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE 111 *(vs. 1, 2 only)**Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*

GELOBT SEI GOTT

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Lord of life is risen today!
Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way;
Let every tongue rejoice and say:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

SERMON

“ EASTER PEOPLE ”

Dr. Swanson

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

*THE CHORAL ACCLAMATION

Chorus: “Hallelujah”
from *Messiah*

G. F. Händel

*Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*The kingdom of this world is become
the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever*

*King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign, and He shall reign, and He shall reign,
and He shall reign for ever and ever*

*King of Kings
for ever and ever.
And Lord of Lords,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*And He shall reign for ever and ever,
for ever and ever,*

*King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,*

and He shall reign for ever and ever,

*King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords.*

*Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!*

***THE CALL TO LIFE**

The Leader: Christ the Lord breaks the bonds of death, lives again
and will forever reign.

The People: **He is here in all His risen glory. Let all the earth lift
its voice.**

The Leader: To the Lord we will sing the blessed song of the angels:

The People: **Glory to God in the highest!**

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

May The Road Rise Up To Meet You

Robert Lau

*THE TIME OF SILENCE

*THE DISMISSAL

Pastor: May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father,
who loved us and graciously gave us
eternal encouragement and good hope,
now encourage our hearts and strengthen us
in every good deed and word.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us go in Peace and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE POSTLUDE

The Brass Quartet

*Those who are able please stand.

A Cordial Welcome to all Worshippers here today.

The traditional Easter greeting is "*Christ is risen!*"

May your response be the joyous affirmation,

"Christ is risen indeed!"

We want to get to know you, especially if you are a visitor!

Please introduce yourself to others sitting nearby during the passing of the peace. Following the worship, everyone is invited to share a time of coffee, tea and fellowship downstairs in the Assembly Room. (exit at the rear of the sanctuary, go down the stairs and past the Library to the entrance near the Sallman painting of Christ knocking at the door.)

YOU WERE GREETED TODAY by Linda Peters.

EASTER FELLOWSHIP HOUR immediately follows this worship service directly downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Our fellowship hour today features a High Easter Tea hosted by Nancy Jo Moorhead.

SPECIAL MUSIC - We are pleased to welcome to this morning's worship service Garret Faccone and Andy Ryan, playing trumpet, and Ethan Wills and Steve Rodgers, playing trombone. They are all students at Slippery Rock University. Thank you gentlemen for adding a dimension of joyful celebration to our Easter service!

THE CHOIR will rehearse in the Sanctuary this Thursday, March 27 at 7 p.m.

VISITORS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS - Please help us by filling out a pew card. If you care to communicate a special request or concern, kindly indicate this on the card, or call the church office at 724-287-7731.

THE SPRING & EASTER FLOWERS in the Sanctuary have been given by members and friends in honor or memory of Loved Ones. If you donated a plant and would like to pick it up, please do so following this worship service.

RECITAL AT SRU - Our own bass section leader and trombonist par excellence, Matt Aلدorfer, will be presenting his senior recital at Swope Recital Hall at Slippery Rock University this Friday evening, March 28, at 7:30 p.m. Beverly Antis will be the piano accompanist for Matt. The program is free and open to the public. Everyone is invited.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

If you did not have an opportunity to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday, extra envelopes are available in the narthex. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church designated *One Great Hour of Sharing* in the memo portion. If you are enclosing cash, please remember to place your name on the envelope to receive proper credit for your contribution. Thank you!



THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow, Monday, March 24.

In The Life of Our Church

Prayer Concerns:

- Doug VanDeusen Recently hospitalized
- Mary Lee Marten At home recuperating from successful eye surgery
- Karen Swanson Recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Betty Butler Recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Grace Sechler At home, improving from recent hip replacement
- Enid Dunmire Shoulder surgery scheduled April 3rd
- Marion Campbell Receiving home care
- Dr. Thomas Stover Mary Lee's brother in Euless, TX, recently diagnosed with cancer
- Bill Wilson At St. John's Specialty Care Center in Mars, PA
- Bob and Joan Moore In the nursing home (Concordia at Rebecca)
- Mary Elizabeth Goehring In the nursing home (Concordia)
- Julie and Bud Bruno For improved strength and health (at home)
- Ray Welling Health concerns

Celebrating Birthdays: March 23 - Linda Harvey Burkley
March 26 - Shari Swanson



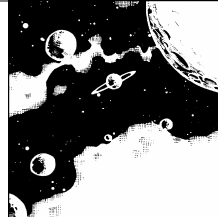
CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE:

New phone number for Betty Anderson: (724) 256-5243

REMINDER: NOISY OFFERING (last Sunday of each month) will be received during the 11:00 am worship service next Sunday, March 30th, so save your coins and bring them with you to worship next week.

Virtual Reality - Trip to Planet Mercury

Mercury Messenger Spacecraft



Dr. David T. Blewett, of Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory, aka Nancy and David's boy, will present a program about the Mercury Messenger spacecraft's first flyby of the planet Mercury in more than thirty years, in the **Carnegie Science Center's Buhl Digital Dome on Saturday, March 29, at 1:00 pm.**

Everyone is invited. General admission tickets for the Science Center are \$10 for children and seniors, and \$14 for adults. Science Center members are free.



Easter & Spring Flowers of Remembrance *March 23, 2008*

Elizabeth "Betty" Butler in memory of Catherine (Butler) Sampson and Eddie H. Butler

Bryson, Sarah, Andrew and Baxter Datt in memory of Mary S. Hoffman; and in honor of Paul B. Hoffman

Joe & Eileen Davidson in memory of Loved Ones

Thomas G. Davidson in memory of my sister, Karyn Dawn Nudge

Enid & Les Dunmire in memory and in honor of Our Family

Herbert Enyeart in memory of Grace H. Enyeart

Art and Marcy Forbes in memory of Our Parents

Pat Foringer in honor of My Family and My Grandchildren

Robert Heaton and Leanne Heaton in memory of Marion M. Heaton

Donna Hobaugh in memory of Richard W. Hobaugh and Richie B. Hobaugh

Bob Hogg in memory of Mrs. Marilyn Hogg

Paul Hoffman in memory of Mary Hoffman

Hoffman Daughters: Mimi Datt, Nancy Remaley, Rebecca Wiles & Families in honor of our father, Paul Hoffman

John & Martha Keasey in memory of our parents, Newton & Edna Kellar and Fred & Della Keasey

Romaine MacDonald in memory of My Parents and My Sister

Macoskey Family in memory of Dr. Robert A. Macoskey

Edna & Orville Nicholas in memory of Our Parents and Amy Laidlaw Geist

Linda Peters in memory of Sam Peters and other Family Members; and in honor of my mother, Georgina Leighty

Jeanne & Chuck Schlicht in memory of Loved Ones

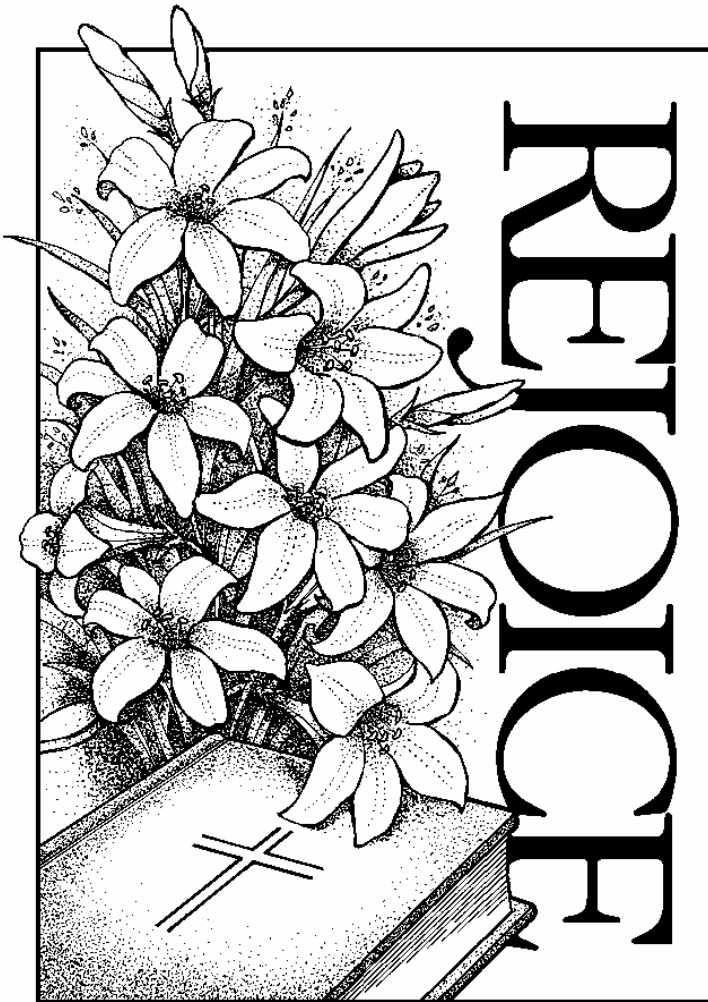
Grace Sechler in honor of my grandchildren: Sarah, Jacob, Jessica and Alex

Swanson Family in memory of Betty Swanson

Phyllis Chappell Thoma in memory of Bill Chappell - 3/24/77

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