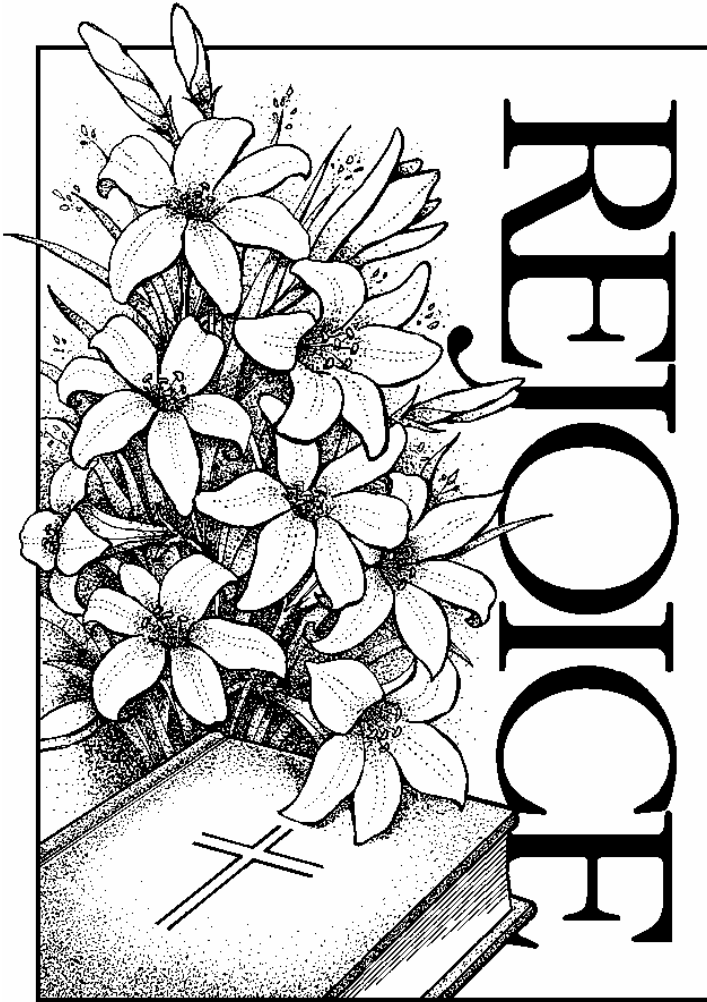


**THE FESTIVAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
IN CELEBRATION OF  
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**

**April 8, 2007**



*Covenant Presbyterian Church (USA)  
230 E. Jefferson Street  
Butler, Pennsylvania*

*The Reverend Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor*  
Home Phone: (724) 752-8383  
Church Office: (724) 287-7731  
Website: <http://covenantbutler.org>



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THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**



Eleven O'clock, April 8, 2007

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

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

THE PRELUDE      *Pilgrim's Chorus from "Tannhauser"*      Richard Wagner  
                                 *Jupiter Chorale from "The Planets"*      Gustav Holst

The Trombone Quartet

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION

The Leader:      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!" Let our lives suggest the good news of Easter because the Lord of Easter dwells within us. 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 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 Isaiah 65:17-25 (*Pew Bible p. 619*)

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

THE ANTHEM *Christ the Lord Is Risen!* Anna Laura Page

THE EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 (*Pew Bible p. 166*)

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 OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Surrexit Christus* G. B. Pergolesi

\*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.*



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 RECESSIONAL HYMN 122      *Thine Is the Glory*      JUDAS MACCABEUS

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (See insert in front of hymnal.)

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter C. Lutkin

\*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

*Achieved is the Glorious Work*  
from "*The Creation*"  
The Trombone Quartet

F. J. Haydn

*\*Those who are able please stand.*

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**WELCOME** - 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!"

Guests are invited to leave a record of their attendance by completing a pew card. If you desire information about Covenant membership, please indicate your interest on the card. Our ushers will be glad to acquaint you with materials about Covenant Church at the conclusion of worship.

**YOU WERE GREETED TODAY** by Jo and John Towns.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** immediately follows this worship service directly downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Hosting today's Easter Sunday Fellowship Hour is Pat Foringer.

**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 morning's worship service.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** - We are pleased to welcome to this morning's worship service Matthew Altdorfer (playing trombone instead of singing bass), Adam Glass, Josiah Shollenberger and Stephen Rodgers, members of the Trombone Quartet. They are all students at Slippery Rock University. Thank you gentlemen for adding a dimension of joyful celebration to our Easter service.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 9.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** - If you did not have an opportunity to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing last week, extra envelopes are available in the narthex. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church designated *One Great Hour of Sharing* in the memo.

## *In The Life of Our Church*

### *Prayer Concerns . . .*

Leah Swanson . . . . . hospitalized at Jameson Memorial Hospital,  
1211 Wilmington Ave., New Castle, PA 16105  
Ellie Walchesky . . . . . surgery at Allegheny General (not yet scheduled)  
Dorothy Hitchcock . . . . . at home, prayers for peace and comfort  
Mary Timmons . . . . . prayers for strength and comfort  
Muriel Thompson . . . . . relief from knee pain and chemo treatments  
Mary Elizabeth Goehring . . . for healing and comfort  
Herbert Enyeart . . . . . moving to Minnesota to live with his daughter

### *Celebrating birthdays this week*

Shayne Hoehn - April 8  
Steven Hamilton - April 11  
Martha Keasey - April 12  
Mindy Gall - April 14

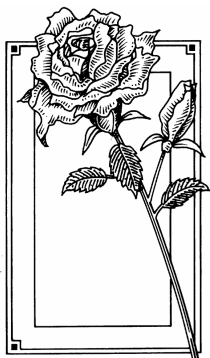
*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please accept our apology. If you would like us to publish the date in the Chronicle and bulletin, please call the church office at 724-287-7731.*

### *Special Anniversary Wishes*

*Congratulations to Bob & Joan Moore*

*Celebrating their 64<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

*On April 10<sup>th</sup>*

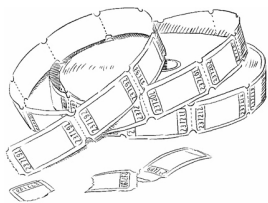


What greater thing is there for two human souls than to feel that they are joined together to strengthen each other in all labor, to minister to each other in all sorrow, to share with each other in all gladness, to be one with each other in the silent unspoken memories?

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## **SILENT AUCTION PROJECT**

### **TO BENEFIT OUR MONTHLY PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY DINNERS**



Julie Bruno crocheted a lovely baby blanket (suitable for a boy or girl) and has donated it to benefit our community dinners. Thanks, Julie! How can you get this blanket? (great gift for a new grandchild!)

We are holding a "SILENT AUCTION" with a minimum bid of \$20. Write your bid (with name and phone number) on a slip of paper and place it in the "bid box" in the Assembly Room. The bids will be opened during Fellowship Time on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. (Bid as often as you like!)

SUGGESTED DONATIONS FOR APRIL (COVENANT CUPBOARD):  
Peanut Butter and/or Jelly

**UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

- Worship & Music - This Tuesday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. (Connell Room)
- Administration & Stewardship - This Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. (Connell Room)
- Session - Tuesday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. (Assembly Room)

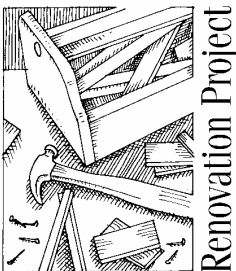
**THE SEEKERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. in the Assembly Room. Tea, coffee and a snack available before class.

- April 15** - PBS Video Series *"From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians"*  
How Christian faith can be reconciled with the "historical approach" to the Bible and to Jesus.
- April 22** - Dr. William Carl III, President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
(Topic description in next Sunday's bulletin)
- April 29** - The Reverend Mr. Alan Adams, Executive Presbyter, Beaver-Butler Presbytery (Topic: Presbyterian Church USA)



**Hallelujah! THE BIBLE AND HANDEL'S MESSIAH**  
*Wednesdays @ 1:00 p.m. - April 18, April 25 and May 2*

**STUDY FOCUS:** Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
April 18 - Covenant Church (led by Rev. Meloy)  
April 25 - Faith Presbyterian (led by Pastor Jim)  
May 2 - St. Andrews Presbyterian (led by Pastor Jim)



**Would you like to be a part of our music program— even though you cannot read any music?**

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, April 21 to lay down the carpet in one of the upstairs music rooms. This will involve moving furniture, removing a carpet, laying down new carpet, and moving the furniture into the room. Plan to arrive at 9 AM on April 21.

--John Prichard, Chairman of Building & Grounds

**VOCAL UNION - A CAPPELLA GOSPEL GROUP**



An *a cappella* gospel group called **"Vocal Union"** will be performing **at the Penn Theater, Sunday, June 10 at 3 o'clock.** This concert is being supported by Butler area churches including First English Lutheran, St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Hill United Presbyterian, First United Methodist and many others. Members of Vocal Union are from Nashville and have been touring the country for the last seven years performed for special church events, community concerts and at the White House.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 dollars for children. Further inquiries about the concert can be answered by calling the Penn Theater at 287-7366 or 287-PENN. We invite you to visit Vocal Union's website at <http://vocalunion.com>

*Anonymous* in honor of Loved Ones

*Brandon and Christle Critchlow* in memory of Gerry Callen  
(grandmother); and in honor of Leonard Callen (grandfather)

*“Mom” Marian Curran* in honor of the Reefer Family

*Joe & Eileen Davidson* in memory of Loved Ones

*Tom Davidson* in memory of my mother, Charlotte L. Davidson

*Samantha Drohan* in honor of Matthew, Olivia, Eliza  
and Vanessa Drohan

*Les & Enid Dunmire* in honor of Our Children and Our Grandchildren

*Herbert G. Enyeart* in memory of Grace H. Enyeart

*Helen R.. Ferguson* in honor of Beverly Antis and the Covenant Choir

*Arthur Forbes* in memory of my parents, Arthur H. & Jean W. Forbes

*Marcia Forbes* in memory of my parents, Raymond & Helen Lang

*Pat Foringer* in memory of Chad Foringer; and in honor of My Family  
and granddaughter, Julia

*Robert and Leanne Heaton* in memory of Marion Heaton

*Nancy Hitchcock* in memory of my father, Norman F. Voelker, Sr.

*Donna Hobaugh & Family* in memory of Richard W. Hobaugh  
and Richie B. Hobaugh

*Robert Hogg* in memory of Marilyn Hogg

*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

*Vivas Macoskey* in honor of My Family

*Bob & Mary Lee Marten* in memory of Our Parents and Son-in-law,  
Ron Ramsey; and in honor of the Swanson Family

*Ann Morrison* in honor of Larry Morrison

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

*Linda Peters* in memory of Sam Peters and Other Loved Ones;  
and in honor of my mother, Georgina Leighty

*Jason, Beth and Karen (DeLorenzo) Reefer* in honor of our parents,  
Mary & John Reefer

*Lois Reefer* in honor of Dr. John Reefer, “my caring and patient son,  
with thanks for all you do.”

*Chuck & Jeanne Schlicht* in honor of Loved Ones

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

*Vernon Swanson, Jim, Karen and Family* in memory of Betty Jane  
Swanson

*Phyllis Chappell Thoma* in honor of Covenant Volunteers

*Doug VanDeusen* in honor of My Family

*Amy Voelker, Mark Hitchcock, and Shayne Hoehn* in memory of  
our grandfather, Norman F. Voelker, Sr.



**An Easter message to the PC(USA)  
from the Stated Clerk, Clifton Kirkpatrick**



LOUISVILLE — I don't know about you, but I sure need Easter this year! Throughout the season of Lent I have felt deep pain and anguish in my own family, among my friends and colleagues, in our divided church, and in our world with all of its wars, conflicts, and injustices.

However, in the midst of all of our disappointments there is good news. The good news of the Lenten season is that we are not alone in our struggles and our suffering. Jesus, too, experiences the pains and sufferings of the world and has gone all the way to the cross. He is with us "even in the valley of the shadow of death."

The even better news is that Easter has arrived! Suffering and pain are not the last words. When Jesus arose on Easter Sunday, it was and is God's triumphant announcement of the power of suffering love to overcome evil and to transform the world in accord with God's good purposes. It is a reminder, in the spirit of Romans 8 and in the words of *A Brief Statement of Faith*, that "nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I have thought often as I eagerly anticipated Easter this year of the familiar refrain, "It's Friday, but Sunday is coming!" Friends, this is the great truth of the gospel and the hope of the world. Sunday has come. Let us look forward today to welcoming anew the power of the resurrected Christ into our lives and into the life of the world as we join other believers in boldly proclaiming, "Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"

A happy and joyous Easter to you all!

*Clifton Kirkpatrick*

