

Covenant United Presbyterian Church

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Worship with us on [YouTube.com/@CovenantTV1813](https://www.youtube.com/@CovenantTV1813)



Faces of faith early in the morning
on that first Easter – what do their
faces tell us? . . . What are You
thinking, seeing and feeling this
Easter morning?



The LORD is risen!

HE is risen, indeed!

Easter Festival Service

April 5, 2026, 11:00 AM

Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert

TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.

Worship Leader: Dr. John Reeper

Choir Director: Chrystal Sircely

Guest Musician: Kathy Kemerer

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDES *Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing ~ D'andrieu*

CHORAL INTROIT 277 v. 1 & 2 *Hail Thee, Festival Day!* SALVE FESTA DIES

REFRAIN *Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day when our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.
All the fair beauty of earth from the death of the winter arising!
Every good gift of the year now with its master returns: REFRAIN
Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the author of life and creation.
Treading the pathway of death, new life you give to us all: REFRAIN*

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION *(With building enthusiasm and bell ringing)*

Pastor: Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

People: **Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.**

Pastor: The Lord is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

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People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

People: **Alleluia! He is risen indeed!**

** OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN 232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Resurrected Christ, there is nothing we can do to deserve the grace you give us. There is no way we can earn your love, there is no way we can be worthy of your forgiveness. And yet you shower these mercies on us. You, who have taken away the sting of death, meet us where we are, in our doubt and fear, in our regrets and shame, in our delight and awe. Meet us here in this place, and call us once again to trust in you.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God says to us, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
People: **Christ says to us, Do not be afraid.**
Pastor: We need not fear; we are forgiven, we are loved, we are redeemed! You are made alive in Christ – The Lord is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed!**
Pastor: In Jesus Christ you are restored!
People: **To God be the glory -- Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**RESPONSE C54 *To God Be the Glory* MY TRIBUTE
***To God be the glory, To God be the glory,
To God be the glory for the things He has done.
With His blood He has saved me; With His pow'r He has raised me.
To God be the glory for the things He has done.***

**THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: May the grace, love, & fellowship of the Trinity be yours in abundance. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
People: **And also with you.**

The Word

**ILLUMINATION 240 V.1 & 2 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* ALLELUIA NO. 1
***Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his name.***
***1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.***

NT LESSON Acts 10: 34 – 43 *Pew Bible P.895*
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 118 HYMN 391 *This Is the Day* ESTE ES EL DIA

NT LESSON Colossians 3: 1 - 4 *Pew Bible P.957*
Leader: Here ends the reading of the Epistle. People: **Praise be to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL LESSON John 20: 1 – 18 *Pew Bible P.882*
Pastor: The Gospel of Our Lord. People: **Glory to You, O Christ!**

CANTICLE 239 v.1, 2 *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! Death's mighty stone is rolled away.
Let all the earth rejoice and say: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

MESSAGE

Faces of Faith on Easter Sunday Morning

PASTOR JOHN

SERMON RESPONSE 557

Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION 1 (Haugen)

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. (x2)

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From the Testimony of Holy Scripture †

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER with 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.

The Eucharist

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, & GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Resurrection and the Life ~ Larson

**DOXOLOGY B593

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

DOXOLOGY 1967

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creature here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. A-men.***

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF DEDICATION †

God of redemption, you have raised Jesus from death, vindicating his mighty words and deeds. Now clothe these gifts with your heavenly power, and make our lives part of your gospel, in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Sending

**HYMN 238

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**CHORAL RESPONSE 248 v. 1

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna

HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

**POSTLUDE

Poco Vivace ~ Schroeder

✦ -- *The Cover of today's bulletin includes two views of the first Easter Morning: a detail of Henry Ossawa Tanner's 1910 painting, "The Three Marys," focusing on Mary Magdalene who leads the way to the tomb; and Eugene Burnand's 1898 painting of "The Disciples Peter and John Running to the Sepulchre on the Morning of the Resurrection," at the Musee d'Orsay, Paris. Tanner (born in Pittsburgh in 1859, died in Paris, France in 1937) was the first African-American painter to gain international acclaim for his religious artwork, like this one. Burnand (born in Switzerland in 1850, died in France in 1921) was a well-known painter of realism in his native country and in France.*

✦ -- *The Affirmation of Faith is derived from 1 Cor. 15:1–6; Mark 16:1–9; Matt. 16:16; Rev. 22:13; and John 20:28. The Prayer of Dedication is submitted by the Rev. Nathan Williams, Covenant Presbyterian Church; Des Moines, IA.*

Church Announcements

Please Note: Fellowship Hour, with its food and conversation, will return next week.

Donations: "Tithely" at covenantbutler.org or "Tithely" Smartphone App

ABBE: Adult Brown-Bag Education: The group will meet on Thu. April 2, 2026, at 11:30 AM

Lighthouse Item of the Month: APRIL – Pasta

Worship Accompanists Needed! April 12, 19, 26 Piano, Organ, Any Instrument OK! See Church Administrator ASAP.



Please Pray for:

David Blewett, who is receiving hospice care at home;

Carolyn Starkey, Dave Loebell's aunt from Ohio, having numerous health issues;

Scott, Linda Peter's neighbor, battling cancer;

Sherry Bartman, cousin of Sandra Graff, from Auburn, GA, was diagnosed with cancer, 4 months after losing her husband;

Rev. Mary Kitchen, a BAPer Pastor serving both Faith and White Oak Springs Presbyterian Churches, is now in rehab (Passavant in Zelienople) after leg surgery from a fall last week;

Leo Deblack, new-born great grandson of Nancy Rice's brother, with a rare, but treatable genetic disorder called MSUD, is home from Children's Hospital and doing well, all things considered. He will be needing a liver transplant when he's 6 months old, so prayers will be appreciated for the family going forward;

Virginia Lokovich, is in Concordia Cabot;

Audrey Carlson, will be having a leg check-up in Mid-April with hopes of being cleared for driving, she continues doing physical therapy after hip replacement at Concordia Cabot;

Richard Mazza C.F.X., cousin of Elaine Nucci, was called to his heavenly home last week; prayers for his loving family and especially the Xaverian Brothers with whom he lived in Danvers, Massachusetts, as they mourn his loss;

Pam Patterson, residing at Concordia Cabot;

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison's sister in CA, has had her FEMA housing file referred to the Congressional Affairs Office (Region 3), while she is managing treatment for persistent lung-related illness (MAC);

Scotty McAliley, Ann Morrison's cousin in Marietta, Georgia, continues with chemo-therapy treatments every two weeks for the remainder of her life. She treasures each day and week she can visit with her parents in North Carolina on off-weeks.

All active in and affected by the military actions in Iran, Israel, and other portions of the Middle East – for relief from suffering, for discerning diplomacy, and a lasting peace for all.

Easter Memorial Plants

In Memory Of

Ron Beatty

Sandra & Brian Graff

Gina & David Loebell

Nancy & Bill Rice

Grace Sechler

Elaine Nucci &
Rev. John C. R. Silbert

Connie Swartzfeger

Ruth Lugibihl

Frederick Graff
Howard & Jane Langston

Robert & Charlene Loebell
Elisha Loebell
Robert & Jeffrey Williams

Our Loved Ones

Mary Lee Marten

Rev. William & Elizabeth Silbert

Ray & Ellie Walchesky

In Honor Of

Ron Beatty

Ione & Rev. Bob Mathias

Ann Morrison

Mary & Dr. John Reefer

Nancy & Bill Rice

Don & Dorothy Wallace

My Family

Family

Sir Lars

Our Covenant Family

Our Family

The Covenant Church Family

