**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

7300 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784 410-795-6152

Text, letter

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**April 17, 2022 - 10:30 am**

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We're glad you are here! Cards at the ends of each pew are for you to fill out and drop in the Offering Plate. Please let us know you are visiting, and join us for refreshments and fellowship following the service. The Sanctuary has an induction loop system to assist the hearing impaired. The system will also work on the telephone setting of hearing aids.

Springfield Presbyterian Church is rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, and called to loving relationships through vibrant worship and service. Valuing all people, we are committed to developing disciples and fostering stewardship.

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD**

(**\*** those who are able are invited to stand)

**PRELUDE** *In the Garden* by C. Austin Miles Arr. Fred Bock

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** (Greeting)

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim:

**People: Christ is the Light of the world and the center of our lives.**

**INTROIT** *Come, Let Us Sing* by: Mark Patterson

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: This day is not like any other day.

**People: Today we slow down. Today we take it all in. Today we rest in good news.**

Leader: This day is not like any other day.

**People: Today we are singing. Today we are full to the brim. Today joy cannot be contained.**

Leader: This day is not like any other day.

**People: Today the stone was rolled away. Today the women saw the empty grave. Today we know – death does not win.**

Leader: This day is not like any other day.

**People: Alleluia! Amen.**

**\* HYMN** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* #232

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Family of faith, it is our tradition to have a prayer of confession each week – not to harp on ourselves or to drum up guilt, but because we believe God is not done with us yet. So, please join me in the prayer of confession, because God is always listening and God’s grace is always full to the brim.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of new life, we are a mixed bag. We want to be full to the brim with hope and joy, but often we overflow with comparison and doubt. We want to embody the resurrection, but often we’d rather stay the same than to begin again. We want to have the courage to be like the women on that Easter morning – to run and speak truth, but often we are weary of courage and uncertain of our own voices. Forgive us for all the ways we remain unchanged. Break into our hearts. Overflow here. With hope we pray, amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Restore in Us, O God*  Tune #434

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;

Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Family of faith, if there is life after death, then you can be certain – there is life after mess. There is life after mistakes. There is life after doubt. There is new life freely given, and that life is for you. You are forgiven, loved, and claimed. May we live full to the brim in response.

**People: Thanks be to God, and let it be so. Alleluia! Amen.**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

**\* THE PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

(You may greet those around you.)

**\* RESPONSE** *Here I Am, Lord*

Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Brief Statement of Faith – Presbyterian Church (USA) - 1983

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

We trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments. We violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world 66 the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, 7and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, we so often long for more. We want more than the hamster wheel life of to-do lists and errands, meal prep and alarm clocks. We want more than comparison and competition. We want more than certainty that drowns out curiosity. We want more than fear that leads to violence. We want a life that is teeming with alleluias. We want a life overcrowded with hope. We want a life congested with good news. We want a life jam-packed with forgiveness. We want a life bursting with laughter. We want a life so full that the stone just has to be rolled away. So today we pray – dust the cobwebs from our ears. Clear space in our minds to hear you clearly. Speak to us as only you can. It’s what we long for. We long for you. Gratefully we pray, amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Isaiah 65:17-25*

17 For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. 19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. 20 No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. 21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. 22 They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. 23 They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. 24 Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. 25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,

says the Lord.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**  *Luke 24:1-12*

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they went in, they did not find the body. 4While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, ‘Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. 6Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.’ 8Then they remembered his words, 9and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**  *Alleluias in Bloom* Rev. Becca Crate-Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *Now the Green Blade Rises* #247

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,

Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;

Love lives again, that with the dead has been;

Love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,

Thinking that he would never wake again,

Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;

Love is come again like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain,

He that for three days in the grave had lain;

Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;

Love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,

Your touch can call us back to life again;

Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Love is come again like wheat arising green.

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

## INVITATION

## THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

[The Pastor continues… “…who forever sing to the glory of your name...”]

**IN PRAISE OF GOD** Tune #552

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of Power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

[The Pastor continues… “…proclaim the one crucified and risen.”]

**IN PRAISE OF CHRIST** Tune #553

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE MEAL**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Unison)

**God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following His example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY** *Come, Sing Alleluia* Arr. Bailey/Mayo

SONG OF THANKS *We Give Thee but Thine Own* #708

We give thee but thine own, what e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Christ Is Alive!* #246

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: As you leave this place, may we be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

**People: May we laugh and may it be contagious.**

Leader: May we overflow with love for those around us.

**People: May we be filled with hope and quick to point out joy.**

Leader: In all of our living, and breathing, and being,

**People: May we find ourselves full to the brim with the God’s Holy Spirit,**

Leader: And may it change our lives.

**People: In the name of the Beloved and Love itself – let us go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE** *Christ the Lord is Arisen Today* by Lyra David

**Assisting in Worship: We appreciate those who serve:**

Today 4/17 Next Week 4/24

Sunday Opener Bob Rogers Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters Elizabeth Meirowitz Cynthia Smith Don Vasbinder Need Volunteer

Lay Leader Max Carroll Barbara Cornell

Communion Servers: 1. Barbara Cornell 5. Diana Steppling

2. Don Vasbinder 6. Bob Steppling

3. Linda Black 7. Bob Rogers

4. Sharon Pappas 8. Elizabeth Meirowitz

**Sunday April 24, 2022 Lectionary**

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

**Happy Birthday!**  April 19 – Deb Sperling

April 23 – Morgan Mazer

**Announcements**

**Church Family Photo/Fellowship/Easter Egg Hunt Today:** Following worship today, we will gather around the cross outside for a church family photo. Afterwards, you are welcome to have photos taken with your family, and then join us for fellowship. Kids are invited to go outside with our youth to hunt for Easter eggs on the church lawn.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Spring is the season for One Great Hour of Sharing, one of PCUSA's 4 special offerings every year. This year our campaign goes from April 3 through Easter Sunday. One Great Hour of Sharing has 3 focuses: hunger relief, disaster relief and development, supporting the “self-development of people”, communities organizing to better their lives. One of the ways OGHS connects us is through MASE, the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment. Please give generously!

**Sunday School is back!** On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, we will be offering Sunday School! See Pastor Becca for details…

**Ruth Gosnell Foundation (RGEF):** The RGEF meeting is rescheduled for April 24, 2022 after worship.

**Springfield Membership:** Are you interested in finding out more about our faith community and becoming a member? We would love to answer any questions you have. Please contact Pastor Becca at [springfieldpastor@gmail.com](mailto:springfieldpastor@gmail.com) for more information.

**Mask Update:** By the agreement of Session, we are now making masks optional. We do want to encourage you, if you feel compelled or have any underlying conditions, to keep your mask on. If you do wish to take off your mask though, we are also happy to see your faces. More information about fellowship and other practices will be coming as we make our way back to normalcy.

**Congregational Care / Mission & Outreach:** Do you know of a member or friend of our church family who is ill, needs prayers, would like call, a visit or a card, or might benefit from meal train? If so, please contact the Church Office (410-795-6152), Cathy Marsh (410-549-6916) or Diana Steppling (862-266-2242).

**Fellowship Help Needed:** If you are interested in helping with Fellowship, please contact Barbara Cornell (401-549-9397). A sign-up sheet will also be available.

***Today:***

**Sunday April 17 – Easter Sunday**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Group Photo

Easter Egg Hunt

Fellowship

***This Week:***

**Wednesday April 20**

No Bell Choir Practice

No Adult Choir Practice

***Looking Ahead:***

**Sunday April 24**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

12:00 noon RGEF Meeting (Library)

**Wednesday April 27**

No Bell Choir Practice

No Adult Choir Practice

***The flowers in the Sanctuary were given by:***

**The Black Family**

In memory of Barbara Dockendorf

**Ryley Brown**

In memory of Beverly Simmons

**Tony & Linda Caviglia**

In memory of Charles & Elaine Cleland; Enzo & Ann Marie Caviglia

**Georgia Hodges**

In memory of Dan Hodges; In honor of Otis Hodges

**Ron & Sue Holmes**

In memory of “Barc” & Edna Holmes; Ed & Patsy Locke

**Sharon Pappas**

In memory of Jack Pappas

**Judy Rhoades**

In honor and appreciation for all those working so hard to keep SPC going in these trying times

**Bob & Lisa Rogers**

In memory of Mary Williams & Theresa Rogers

**Bob & Diana Steppling**

In memory of Philip & Ira Evans; Jack & Betty Steppling

**Belle & Don Vasbinder & Family**

In memory of William & Isabelle, Jeannette & George, Nettie Studley, Kurt, Brian Schlecht, Janet & Bob

**The Yeager Family**

In memory of John & Elizabeth Yeager and Al Hefflon

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

**Website:** [*www.springfield-church.org*](http://www.springfield-church.org)**Church Office**: 410-795-6152

**Like us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/SpringfieldPresbyterianChurch

**Pastor:** Rev. Becca Crate-Price

**Email:** springfieldpastor@gmail.com

**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music:** Linda Caviglia

**Accompanist/Organist:** Aaron Thacker

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer**e-mail:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)