



Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Julie Peterson

This is the day:

**when tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended;
fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day the Lord:

**rolls away the stone of fear; throws off death's clothes;
goes ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day the Lord has made:

**death has no fear for us; sin has lost its power over us;
God opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.**

This is the day - Easter Day!

Christ is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed! Hallelujah! Amen!

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

GTG #232; Blue #123

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

Jim L.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

On this morning of hallelujahs, we must confess how human we are, Emptier of tombs. We haven't done any great evil, but we have failed to do good when we had the chance. We have not intentionally hurt anyone, nor have we offered healing to the broken. We easily accept the witness of the angel in the tomb, but find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbors.

Bring us new life, Dazzling God. Where we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation; transform our hardened hearts into fountains of grace; forgive us of all the damage we have done, and fill us with the joy of your Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, who gives us new life, we pray may it be so.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONDING TO GRACE

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

GTG # 591

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Hallelujah, Hallelujah!**

SHARE GOD’S LOVE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:34-43

Jim L.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 20:1-18

Rev. Julie Peterson

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“I have seen the Lord!”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS’ NAME

PASSING THE PEACE

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

(Grant us Peace)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH²

Jim L.

“We believe in God – who brings Easter into our Good Friday worlds.

Easter turns doubts upside down, sets loose new possibilities, reveals a God stronger than death, a love mightier than despair.

We believe Easter brings us the risen Christ, who knows our wounds, forgives our denials, sends us out to love and serve; who is not bound by a period in history but finds us wherever we journey; who receives our questions, speaks a word of peace, and causes our hearts to be warmed.

We believe Easter releases the Holy Spirit—the invisible presence of God at work in our world bringing reconciliation instead of hatred, creating communities of support in the face of senseless tragedy, causing us to walk with joy in our steps, hope in the our hearts, and a song on our lips.

We believe in the power of resurrection at work in our world!”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL ANTHEM

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF PREPARATION “Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven”

GTG #511

**Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia!
has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!
Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!
“Come! the banquet is prepared.” Alleluia!**

**As the Lord our God has willed, Alleluia!
here the hungry soul is filled; Alleluia!
here the weary are refreshed. Alleluia!
All who share God’s feast are blessed. Alleluia!**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING¹

The God of every morning be with you.

And also with you.

People of Easter morning, lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the One who has raised Jesus from the grave.

People of Easter's joy, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life.

We sing our hallelujahs to the God of everlasting love.

On this day of joy and hope, Redeemer of the lost, we sing our praise to you. Very early in the morning, your Word shattered the silence of chaos, and grace flowed forth like a river. You reached down and gathered up the dust of creation, forming us into your image, and breathing life into us. Yet the day came when we chose to turn from you believing our wisdom was superior to your will for us. You sent us the prophets, to speak of your gracious hope, but we refused to listen. When you could have let us remain in the clutches of sin and death, you sent Jesus to be one of us, so we could come home to you. Therefore, we join our voices this morning with those who stood at the empty tomb, as well as those of every time and place, singing our Easter joy to you:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of the empty grave.

Glad songs of resurrection joy are offered to you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes bearing your steadfast love.

Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you, God of every day, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Bright Morning Star. Creator of all that is good, he entered the shadows of hell to lead us into hope's light; Beloved of your Heart, he embraced our sin so we could be forgiven; Glory beyond imagination, he welcomed death so we could enter life eternal. Even as we believe what we may not understand, we trust that mystery we call faith:

**On the first day, Christ shaped all that is good and beautiful;
on the first day of the week, Christ swallowed up death forever;
on the last day, Christ will call us to the Table of the Lamb.**

It is here at this Table, Resurrecting God, that we are fed by your love. As you pour out your Spirit upon the Bread and the Cup, fill us with the spirit of Jesus, so we may go forth to be your people. Feed us with the Bread of Heaven, so we can fill the hunger of the world. Touch our lips with salvation's cup, so we can proclaim the good news of this day to everyone we meet. And when the morning comes when we are united with all the saints gathered around heaven's Table, we will lift our voices to you, God in Community, Holy in One, Amen!

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION³

Holy One, here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and cup. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work—only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind and spirit, may all we say and do give you glory. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks!”

GTG #240; Blue #106

Refrain

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. ~sing refrain~

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

~sing refrain~

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. ~sing refrain~

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. ~sing refrain~

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

¹Shuman, Thom. Where the Broken Gather (p. 120, 121-124). Kindle Edition.

²Rev. Meghan Davis Young, Congregational Church of Tryon (UCC), North Carolina (<http://ucctryon.org/>)

³Reprinted by permission from the Book of Common Worship, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. pg. 328

CCLI #2992287 / SongSelect® #11328105

CCLI Streaming License, #20364741



Easter Flower Dedications

- Larry and Dawn AIn loving memory of our parents
John and Marilyn BIn honor of our family
Carole BIn memory of my parents, Ed and Erna Bauer and sister Betty Lyman
Jim and Susan B.....In memory of Ruth Buchholz
Jim and Susan B.....In memory of Justin & Ina Lauzon
Mary Ann BIn memory of all my loved ones
Mary E and George RIn memory of Bob Ekstrom
Mary E and George RIn memory of Joan Rogers
Mary E and George RIn honor of Mark & Mary Rogers
Mary E and George RIn memory of Robert Frederick
Mary E and George RIn honor of Char Isaacson
Mary E and George RIn honor of Andrew Isaacson
Mary E and George RIn honor of the Tim Rogers Family
Karen M. F.....In memory of my parents, Marie and Leonard Spencer
Nancy and Charlie K.....In memory of Mildred, Ed and Elaine Kietzer
Nancy and & Charlie KIn memory of our parents
Dave and Jane LIn memory of everyone lost to COVID-19
Dave and Jane LIn honor of all the essential workers
Sue and Jim LFor all families who are grieving
Mike and Chris L.....In memory of family members who are in heaven
Mike and Chris L.....In honor of our family
Lois M.....For my dear husband, Andrew
Susan and Terry MIn memory of our parents, Albert & Dolores Maulding
Susan and Terry MIn memory of our parents, Erling and Jeannette Berg
Jim and Ann M.....In honor of our children and grandson, Aaron, Kim and RJ, and Elizabeth
Jim and Ann M.....In honor of our extended family
Jim and Ann M.....In memory of our parents, Bob and Ruth Moorman
Jim and Ann M.....In memory of our parents, Dick and Margaret McWilliams
Jeff and Julie PIn memory of our daughter, Amy Peterson
Jeff and Julie PIn memory of Earl & Betty Nelson, Roger Nelson, and Jann Peterson
Stu and Marie RIn memory of our parents
Stu and Marie RIn honor of our family
Stu and Judie T.....In gratitude for the blessing of our family
Stu and Judie T.....In memory of our parents, George & Margaret and Frank & Josephine
John and Cheryl WIn honor of our children, Dorothy, Patrick & Lewis
Cathy W.....In honor of my mom, Doris Swift
Cathy W.....In memory of Don and Dorothy Walker and Edwin Swift

Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name

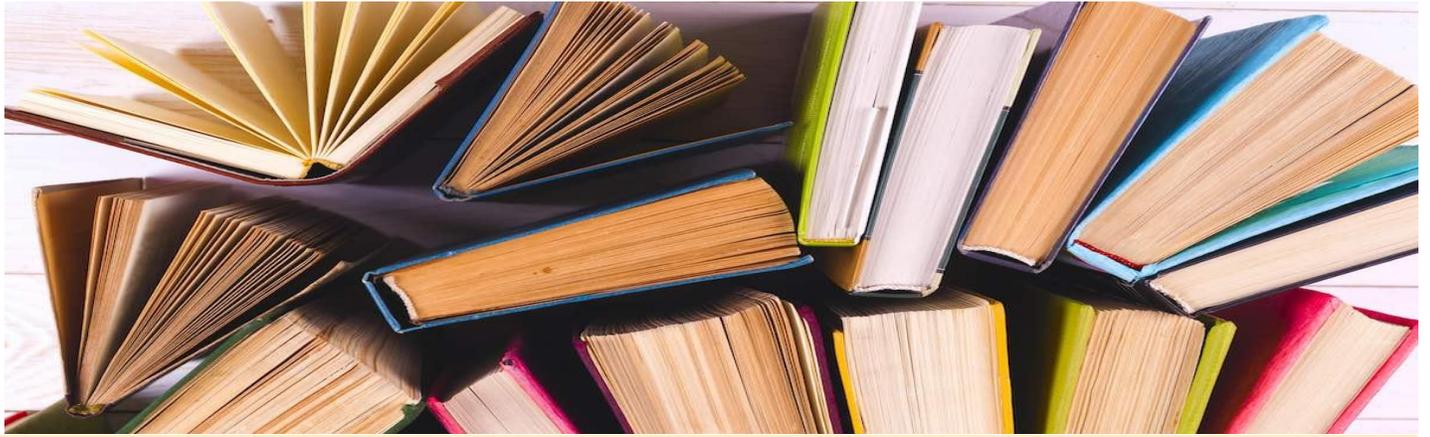


Prayer
REQUESTS

Avonne (Laura's mother)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Steve A (father-in-law of Glenna's daughter)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Dee B (former member)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Sushma B
Andree C
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Sabina C (Adelaide's sister-in-law)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Gabi (Mother of Sue/Joe's son-in-law)
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)
Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)

Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
José K (Adelaide's friend)
Steve (Jane's brother)
Bob L (husband of Judie T's friend)
Jim/Sheryl L (Ken/Pat's son-in-law/daughter)
Pam L
Phyllis L
McKenzie (daughter of Michelle V's friend)
Crisann M (friend of Mike/Chris L)
Judy M
Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Steve M
Lois McP
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
Maria R (Laura D's friend)
Jessie R (Julie/Jeff's niece)
Ann & Geoff S
Geri S (Adelaide's neighbor)
Martin S (Sue/Jim's friend)
Marnie S (Glenna M's friend)
Larry V (Jim V's father)
Those who are caregivers
Those devastated by terrorism
Our world and all affected by COVID-19
Those who grieve

- **Family of Dick McW** (Ann's brother)



Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Our current book is **"Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine"** by Gail Honeyman

If you want to be included, please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invitation.



Coffee Hour is back on Sundays, starting on April 4th.

The Sign-up Sheet is in the lounge or you can email Glenna M. to sign up.

We are asking that you only supply cookies in snack bags, in addition to setting up the coffee.



Lunch with Pastor Julie

Join us via Zoom every Wednesday at 12 noon for bible study.

We discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service.
Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join the Zoom session.

April 7	No Class
April 14	No Class
April 21	John 10:11-18; Acts 4:5-12



ZOOM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study will meet on April 14th.
Meetings start at 7 pm.

Our current study is on the book ISAIAH Trusting God in Troubled Times
by Howard Peskett.

We meet via Zoom. We encourage new attendees, so if interested, please contact
Ken G. or Stu R. for access details.



ZOOM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

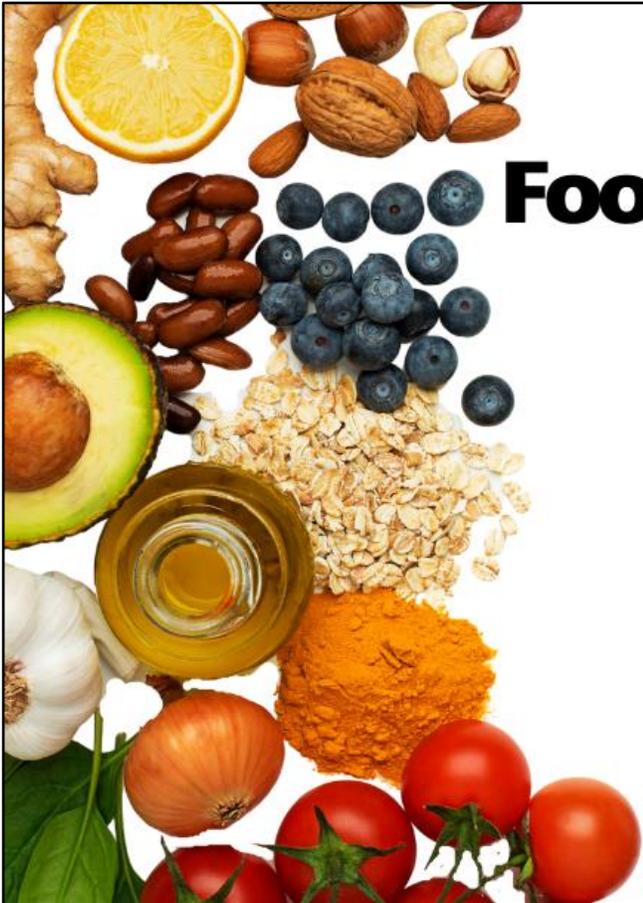
The group meets via Zoom on Sundays at 11:45 am.

We are not meeting on April 4th and April 11th

**We will continue our study of Brueggemann's "Materiality as Resistance"
on April 18th**

EVERYONE is invited to join the study!

Let Pastor Julie know you are interested,
and the Zoom info will be sent directly to you.



Food Pantry Needs

Tomato Products
Pasta Roni
Baking Items
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Paper Towels
Diapers
Wipes



Thank you for all the donations for the Socks & Toiletries Drive & Easter Gift Cards!!

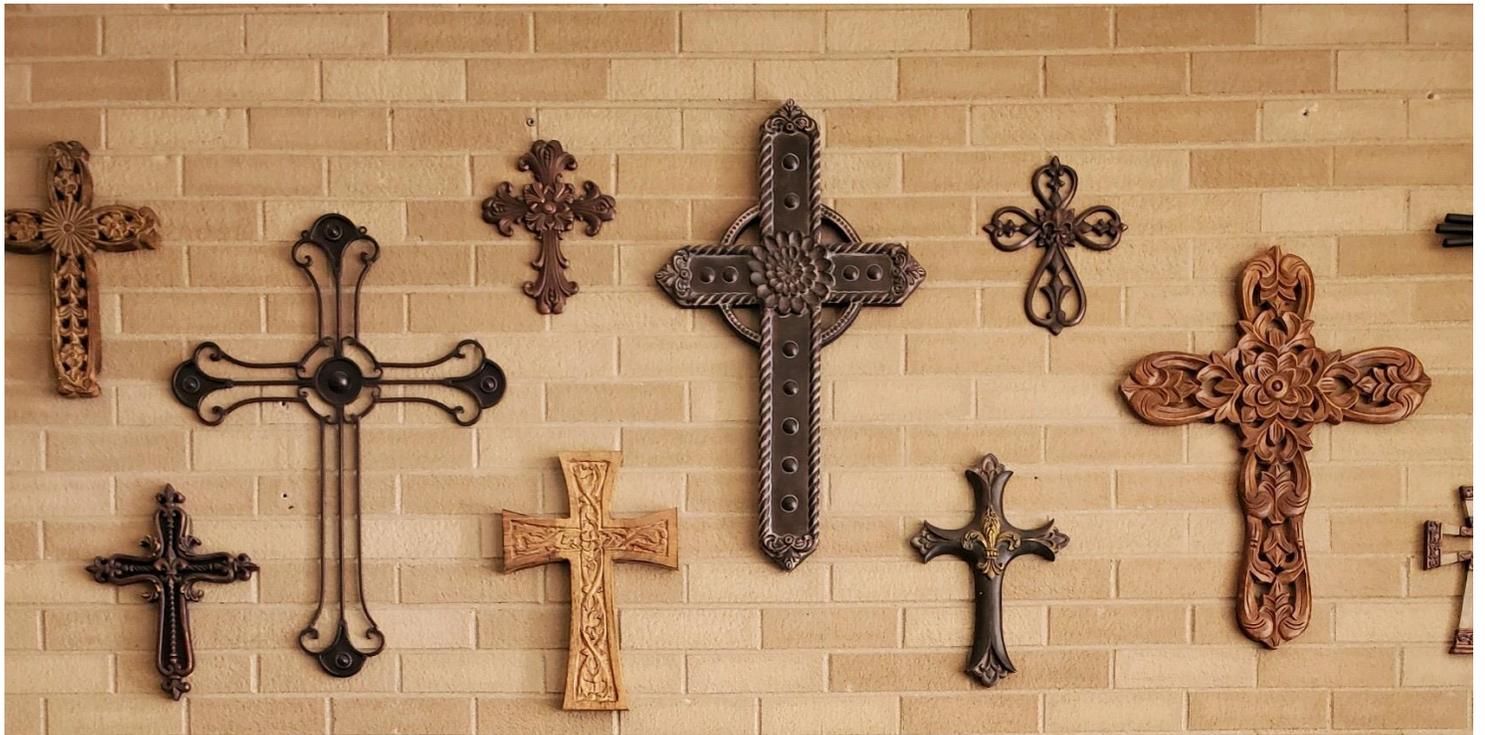
The Toiletries, Socks and Gift Cards were distributed to families of Lakeview Elementary School on March 30th. The total amount collected for Aldi's Gift Cards was \$2,530!! Thank you so much for your generosity!



COTC COMMUNITY GARDEN

Are you interested in volunteering this Summer ?

Please meet us on Sunday, April 11th at 11am in the back of COTC's lounge to start planning for this Summer's vegetable garden.



**Thank you for ordering Easter Flowers.
We wish you a day of peace, love, and bliss.**

