Easter Sunday

April 17, 2022 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

PRELUDE Yes, I Know My Savior Lives *by Lani Smith* Robert K.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

CHORAL INTROIT "Christ is Risen from the Dead" *Antonio Caldara*

*CALL TO WORSHIP[1] Rev. Julie Peterson

Beloveds, rejoice!

Systems of evil cannot overcome Hope;

forces of oppression cannot destroy Love.

Alleluia! The Holy is alive within us!

Praise the God of New Life even amidst grief,
Praise the God of Possibility even when all seems lost.

The stone of despair has been rolled away!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

*OPENING HYMN "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" *GTG #232*

CALL TO CONFESSION Jim B.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION[1/2]

On this first day of the week, Emptier of tombs, we must admit that we have not lived faithfully the last few days. It is not that we have done great evil; we simply have failed to do good. It is not so much that we have caused hurt; we have not brought healing. It is not that we have trouble believing in the event of Easter; we have difficulty speaking about this day to our friends and neighbors.

Call us by name, Redeemer of all creation, so we might hear your words of mercy. You have not given us over to despair; but have handed us hope. You have not ignored our emptiness; but filled us with the Bread of Heaven. You do not hand us over to death; but raise us to new life.

Show us the meaning of hope, Holy Spirit of eternal presence, so we will trust that after tragedy, after death, there is more meaning to be lived. There is more beauty to witness, more intimacy to experience, more relationships to delight in, more liberation to embody. Embolden us to be a people who practice this hope.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONDING TO GRACE "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" *GTG # 591 (refrain only)*

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST "Jesus Loves Me"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 65:17-25 Jim B.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:1-12 Cheryl Wilkins *(Spanish)*
Rev. Julie Peterson *(English)*

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Wonder of it All Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE …IN JESUS' NAME

*HYMN "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" *GTG #240*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH[2] Jim B.

Holy God our Salvation: you roll away the power of sin, bringing forth the One who makes everything alive. Out of the garden of violence and hate which evil has planted, you bring forth a spring harvest of love and forgiveness.

Jesus Christ, Creation's Gardener: you went into the grave to drive out the power of the world; you shut the doors of pain and death and open the gates of glory to those who trust in you and follow as your faithful servants.

Holy Spirit, Anointer of new life: you speak and open our eyes to faith; you touch our lips with glad songs of victory; you roll away our fears so we can tell everyone we have seen the Risen Lord. Yes! Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen Indeed!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERTORY "Jesus is Alive! Alleluia!" *Bailes/Shackley*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN OF PREPARATION "In the Bulb There is a Flower" *GTG #250*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Alleluia is not just a word; it is a way of living.

...how many ways can we share an 'alleluia!'?

When the table is set… **Alleluia**

When the bread is divided for all… **Alleluia**

When the cup is generously poured… **Alleluia**

When the hungry are fed and the homeless housed… **Alleluia**

When peace is celebrated… **Alleluia**

When communities are brought together… **Alleluia**

When neighbors love each other… **Alleluia**

It is the crucified and Risen Lord who has set the feast at this table, so let us share in our Great Prayer of Thanksgiving.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING[1/3]

The Lord is risen!

We have seen the Lord!

Lift up your hearts, people of God.

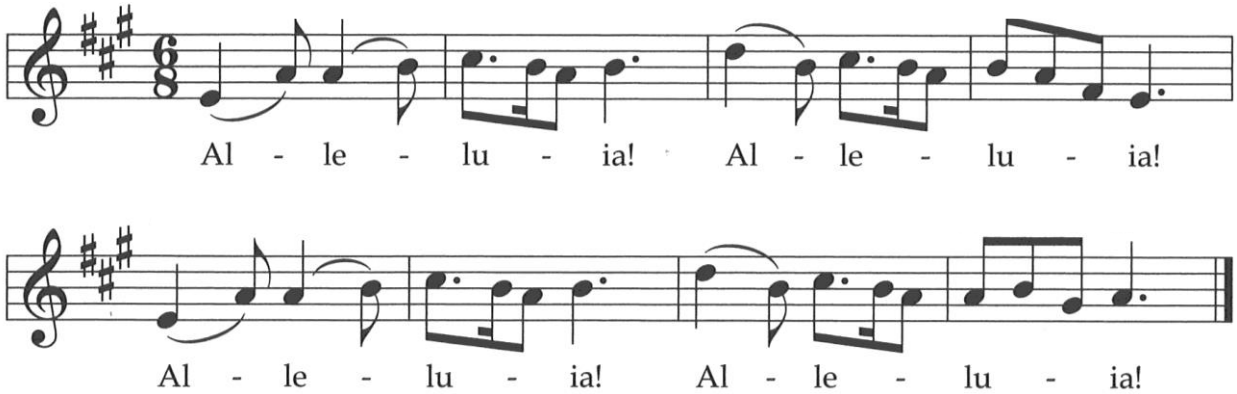
We lift them to the Risen Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

We offer our thanks and praise to the One who gives us new life.

God, who raised Jesus form the dead, your creative power continues to bring life to the world. From your ordering of the shapeless void and bringing light out of its darkness to the sun that continues to rise each day, your love is proclaimed throughout creation. We offer our thanksgiving and praise in our alleluias.

Sung Response "Alleluia!" GTG #587



Jesus, uncontained by death, you continue to live in your resurrected Body, the Church. By teaching and healing, through mercy and compassion, you gathered the lost, the broken, and those cast-aside near to you. You've loved us all. You showed us the power of forgiveness and the abundance of life so that our joy would be made complete in you. We offer our thanksgiving and praise in our alleluias.

Sung Response ~ *see above*

Holy Spirit, continued breath of life within us, we seek to follow you into the world. You are the reality of the resurrection in our lives and the presence of peace in all our circumstances. You take the bread we break and the cup we pour and bring us into communion with the Risen Christ. May this meal nourish us in our continued life of service to you until the day we celebrate it in your presence at the great banquet. We offer our thanksgiving and praise in our alleluias.

Sung Response ~ *see above*

With the joy of those who know the tomb is empty and our Lord lives,
we join our voices in praise to you, Holy One, for your gift of Resurrection Life. Alleluia! Amen!

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, on this Holy Day of all days, we celebrate your truth—in life and in death we belong to you. We celebrate that life, and not death, is your eternal word. We thank you for this Table of your Love—where the whole of our being is filled to overflowing with just what we need to live faithful lives—your Holy Presence. Lord of Eternal life, we go from this time shared in community around your Table knowing the certainty of your love and grace. Fittingly, we proclaim your glory to the world with our very lives. Alleluia to the Risen Christ! Amen!

*CLOSING HYMN	"Thine is the Glory"	GTG #238

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	"Hallelujah Chorus"	*G. F. Handel*

Those who are familiar with the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to join the choir in the balcony during the closing hymn for the Choral Benediction.

*POSTLUDE	Thine is the Glory *by Robert J. Hughes*	Robert K.

[1]enfleshed | justice. liberation. delight. ©2022 Enfleshed.com, reprinted with permission.
[2]Shuman, Thom. Bearers of Grace and Justice (p. 119). Unknown. Kindle Edition.
[3]*adapted from* Michelle Henrichs, Come to the Table: Communion Liturgies of invitation to Celebrate and Experience the Love of God, © 2020 Michelle Henrichs, life in the Labyrinth LLC.

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Easter Flower Dedications

John and Marilyn B ..... In celebration of family
Carole B ..... To the Glory of God
Jim and Susan B ..... In memory of Ruth Buchholz
Jim and Susan B ..... In memory of Justin & Ina Lauzon
Mary Ann B ..... In memory of my son, Doug
Laura DLC ..... To the Glory of God
Karen M. F ..... In memory of my parents, Marie and Leonard Spencer
Pat & Ken G..... In memory of our parents and Jim Lodolce
Donna and Ron H ..... In celebration of our children and grandchildren
John H ..... In memory of Nancy Harmon
Charie I ..... In memory of my dad, Bob Ekstrom
Charie I ……. ..... In honor of my mom, Mary Rogers
Nancy and & Charlie K ..... In memory of our parents
Sue and Jim L ..... To the Glory of God
Mike and Chris L..... In honor of our family
Bob L ..... In memory of Sandy
Lois M..... In memory of my grandson
Susan and Terry M ..... In memory of our parents, Albert & Dolores Maulding
Susan and Terry M ..... In memory of our parents, Erling and Jeannette Berg
Jim and Ann M..... In honor of our family
Jim and Ann M..... In memory of our parents
Fay and Fritz M ..... In memory of Lena Glynn
Glenna and Hank M ..... In honor of our family
Jeff and Julie P ..... In memory of our daughter, Amy Peterson
Jeff and Julie P ..... In memory of Earl & Betty Nelson, Roger Nelson, and Jann Peterson
Julie P..... With love for COTC's community of faith
Mary E and George R ..... In honor of our family
Stu and Marie R ..... In honor of our family
Stu and Judie T..... In gratitude for all our children and grandchildren
Stu and Judie T..... To the Glory of God
John and Cheryl W..... To the Glory of God
John and Cheryl W..... In memory of Rev. Carl Roy Zimmerman
Cathy W..... In honor of my mom, Doris Swift
Cathy W..... In memory of Don and Dorothy Walker and Edwin Swift

Sunday, April 17th	10 am – Worship Service with Communion 11 am – Coffee Hour in the Lounge
April 18-24	**Pastor Julie on vacation – *contact any Deacon or Elder if you have a pastoral care need***
Thursday, April 21st	*No Choir Rehearsal*
Saturday, April 23rd	8 am – Leadership Training *please see page 9 for more details*
Sunday, April 24th	10 am – Worship Service – *No Choir* Guest pastor, Steve Pierce 11 am – Coffee Hour in the Lounge

Contact Us

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Website: www.churchofthecross.online

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Office Manager - Vanessa Brand
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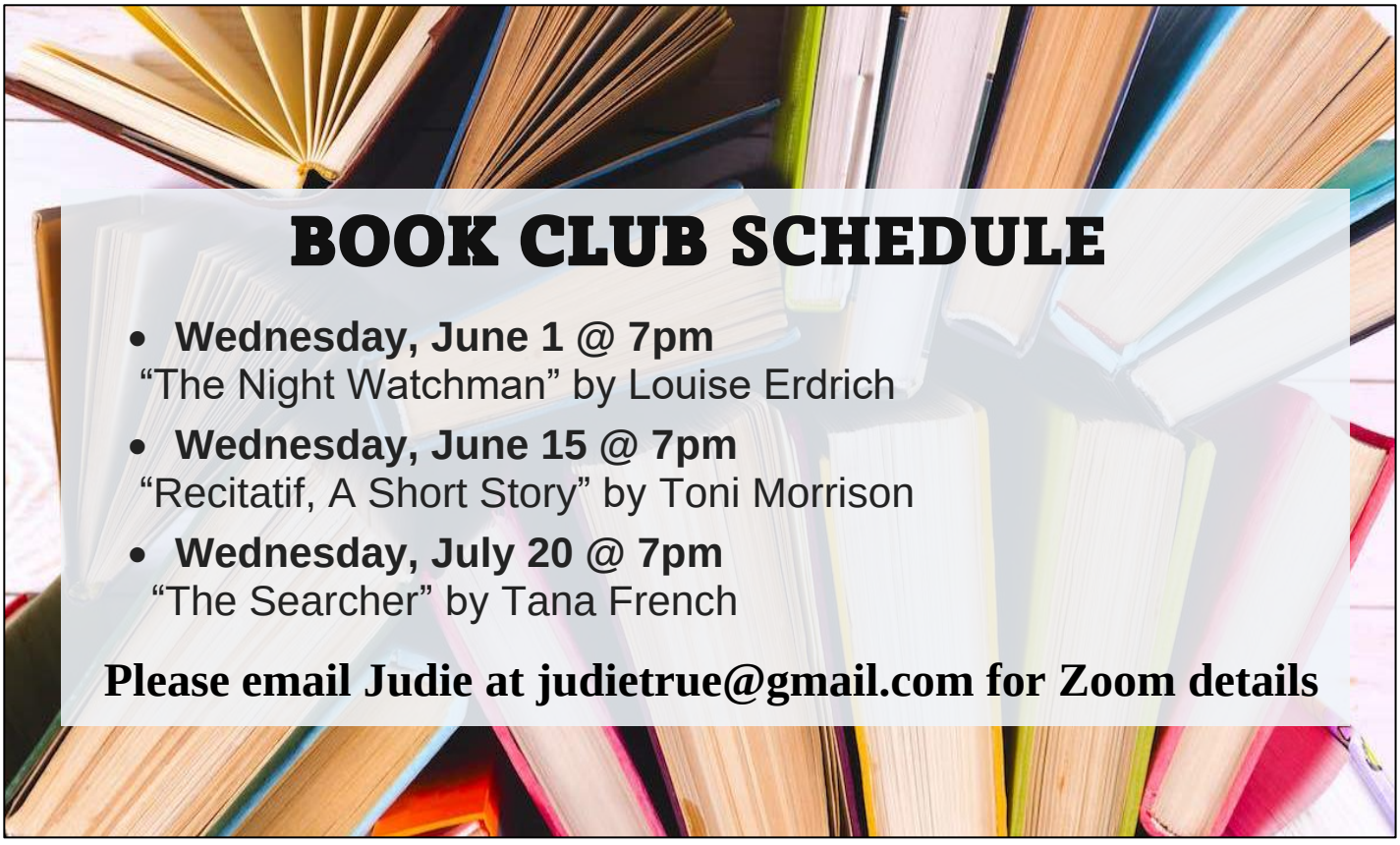
LUNCH WITH PASTOR JULIE

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.

April 20	NO CLASS – Julie on vacation
April 27	NO CLASS – Julie on vacation
May 4	John 10:22-30; Psalm 23



BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

- **Wednesday, June 1 @ 7pm**
  "The Night Watchman" by Louise Erdrich
- **Wednesday, June 15 @ 7pm**
  "Recitatif, A Short Story" by Toni Morrison
- **Wednesday, July 20 @ 7pm**
  "The Searcher" by Tana French

Please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com for Zoom details

The flower arrangement this week is from:
The Keppel family in celebration of Celina's 4th and Noah's 6th birthday

Leadership Training Session – April 23rd @ 8am
The session will be run by Officer Park, from the Hoffman Estates Police Department. He will be training on 1st shooter response, emergency training, and first aid. Please sign up for this event on our website or in the lounge.

Covid-19 Remembrance Vigil

May 25, 2022 @ 7 p.m.

Church of the Cross
475 W Higgins Rd
Hoffman Estates, IL

An Interfaith Gathering to remember our beloved family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors lost to Covid-19.

Join us to honor their lives through songs, prayers, a moment of silence with candle lighting, and a tree dedication in their memory.

We will also offer our deep gratitude to the first responders, medical staff, and front line workers who served and sacrificed for us.

Staff

- Pastor - The Rev. Julie G. Peterson
- Office Manager - Vanessa Brand
- Choir Director - Marie Rutter
- Organist - Dr. Robert Kania

Session

Clerk - Pat Groenewold

Elders, Class of 2022

- Jane Lesch
- Stu Truelsen
- Jim Vakoc

Elders, Class of 2023

- James Buchholz
- Laura De La Cruz
- Cathy Walker

Elders, Class of 2024

- Ken Groenewold, Treasurer
- Charlie Keppel
- Sue Liautaud

Deacons

Deacons, Class of 2022

- Chris Lorentz
- Lois McPherson
- Glenna Morgan

Deacons, Class of 2023

- Naana Grant-Acquah
- Fay Michaelis

Deacons, Class of 2024

- Nancy Keppel, Moderator
- Sue Letterer
- Jeff Peterson

Corporation Officers

- President - Jim Letterer
- Vice President - Jim Vakoc
- Treasurer - Ken Groenewold
- Secretary - Pat Groenewold
- Member at large - Terry Maulding
- Member at large - Hank Morgan

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