

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania

55 Smith Street

East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

570-421-5821

Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ Easter Sunday ~ April 9, 2023

EASTER DECLARATION

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

L: Christ is risen!

P: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

PRELUDE

“Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

ARR. TOM BIRCHWOOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Shadows and worry follow us clinging like cobwebs in our hair.

P: Yet, something has changed.

L: Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed!

L: Darkness and grief surround us and the world’s words creep inside our souls,

ALL: But something is bright and new. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

HYMN NO. 232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

*EASTER PRAYER

God of rock and roll, the rock is rolled away! The tomb is empty! Christ is risen! We’ve come to celebrate the rolling stone and to ask that you role the stone in our lives, to allow the resurrection of ourselves as new creations, in Jesus Christ to come forth and shake us this Easter morning! Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Rejoice, He is Alive!”

ARR. PATTI DRENNAN

CHILDREN’S SERMON

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Father, you sent your Son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we might live a new life in Him. Yet we confess that we, too often, have chosen to remain captive to doubt and fear and ways that lead to death. We have so often listened to the fleshly world’s thoughts and ignored Your Spirit’s words to us. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and defaced your image in us. Father, forgive us for Jesus' sake, and enable us by His resurrection power to live, no longer for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose again for us. Amen.

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Come into the light of God’s love! Christ is risen! Death has been swallowed up in victory! Know beyond all doubt that God’s love is always with you, surrounding you, leading you, comforting you. Be at peace. AMEN.

*GLORI PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, amen. Amen.**

*THE PEACE

L: Christ is risen!

P: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

L: The peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20:1-18 (Pg. 114)

EPISTLE

Hebrews 13: 1-2 (Pg. 227)

SERMON

“Unexpected”

HYMN (on insert)

“Because He Lives”

*INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

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

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,... and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name

P: 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.

L: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Indeed blessed are you, O Christ, our Lord,...Great is the mystery of faith.

P: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

L: Gracious God pour out your Holy Spirit...

THE LORDS 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.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

*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.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

HYMN NO. 248 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

POSTLUDE “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” ARR. CINDY BERRY

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please use the blue prayer request cards in the pews for your prayer requests. Place them in the offering plate before conclusion of passing of peace of you want it included in today’s prayer.

LAY READER for today is Chris Neighbors.

GREETER for today is Sharon Laverdure.

CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY this week is Greg Menio.

THE FLOWERS this week are given by Kelli Burlingame in memory of loved ones.

THIS WEEK AT E.S.P.C.

- Today ~ Choir rehearsal, 9:00 a.m.
- ~ **NO** Adult Ed. Class
- ~ Worship, 10:00 a.m.
- ~ Fellowship Hour following worship
- Monday ~ Easter Monday, Church Closed
- Tuesday ~ Women’s Circle, 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday ~ Men’s lunch, noon

Church Elders

Sharon Laverdure Ellie Buff
Sandra Rydell Judy Schreck Jim Hall
Phil Lawrence Debbie Prince Lisa Swanson

Church Staff

Nicole Vogel	Pastor
Jen Carmella	Secretary
Linda Schaller	Music Director
Sami Carmella	Nursery Attendant
Keith Karkut	Sexton/Technology