

Sunday May 12, 2024 7th Sunday of Easter (Ascension Sunday)

Our Commitments "SHARED RESPONSIBILITY"

Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today for worship! We hope you find Resurrection Philadelphia to be a warm, welcoming community--regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

Please visit our website <u>resurrectionphl.org</u> for more information about worship and ways to connect further to this church community. We are glad you are joining us and look forward to meeting you.

The Pastoral Staff
 Chris Currie, Scott Jennings

Sunday Information

- Nursery + Children's Ministry: Check-in available at both 17th and Sansom Street entrances.
 - Nursery for children 6-30 months: Available for the duration of the service.
 - Sunday School for ages 30 months through 5th grade: Children are dismissed to class just before the sermon; K-5th graders return in time for communion.
 - For nursing mothers seeking privacy, there's a room behind the SE exit from the Sanctuary where the service can be watched.
- Accessibility: A street level entrance is available on Sansom Street, and an elevator providing access to all other levels can be accessed there. Assistive listening devices are available; to request one, please see one of the greeters.
- **Restrooms**: Men's and Women's restrooms are on the lower level; two single-user restrooms open to anyone are available on the 2nd floor.
- **Coffee Hou**r: After the service, located in the Community room, behind the front of the Sanctuary. All are welcome!
- **Parking/Transportation**: Free parking for worship is available at the Liberty Place Garage. Get a timed ticket when you enter the garage, and a chaser ticket (validation ticket) at church. Limited bike and stroller parking at the Sansom lobby, as well as single journey SEPTA passes.

Reflection

I believe that we need to rethink the nature and priority of the corporate body, the church. Throughout biblical history God has been gathering people *together* so that in them and through their life together he might work out his purposes for the world. It was never simply about God calling out an individual so that he or she might walk with God. No, when he called out individuals, it was so that each might play his or her part in the people of *faith*. We've gotten it backwards. We think that the church is there for us; in reality, we are there for the church.

-Allen Mitsuo Wakabayashi, Kingdom Come

Church Calendar

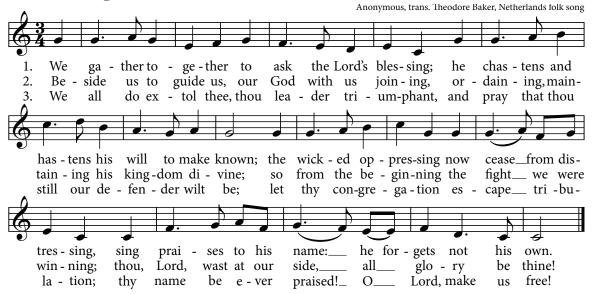
ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST ORDINARY TIME The fullness of the resurrection requires more than a day to unpack. The Easter season is a fifty-day celebration that ends on Pentecost Sunday (the Greek word *pentekoste* means "fiftieth"). The Easter season is a time to let the implications of the resurrection sink in deeper, inviting us to realign our worldview and conform our living to the reality that we have been raised with Christ to new life. Easter is full of joy and the laughter of love— the grave is empty, love has won, Christ is risen! Give yourself over to the experience of that joy—take in the absolute wonder of God's purposeful plan of salvation.

(Seeking God's Face by Philip Reinders)

Welcome

Opening Song

We Gather Together



Opening of Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All And also with you.

Responsive Reading

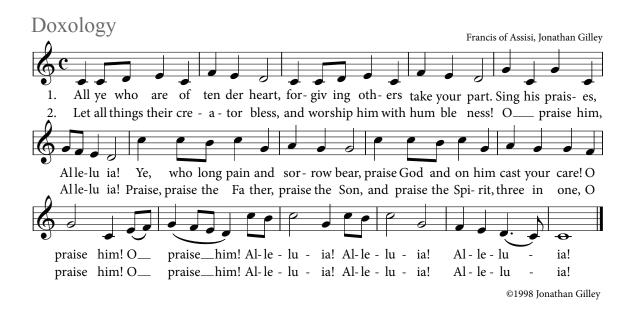
Clap your hands, all you peoples;
All shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
he is a great king over all the earth.
God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

from Psalm 47

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

GOD SUMMONS US AS HIS PEOPLE

As we meet together each week, we recognize in the preparation that God, through his word and Spirit, gathers us into his presence and calls us into his life and mission.



GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense how far short they fall and become aware of their own shame and brokenness. In the same way, we make a confession of sin, *both as a community* and also silently as individuals. In this, we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.

Confession of Sin

All O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory: holy is your name, Lord God almighty. In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away, and to cleanse our lips to speak your word, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Savior forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Song of Praise and Adoration



Baptism

Oscar Jay Williams Cunningham, Rowan William Smith, Alma Evangeline Stoltzfus

Minister (to the parents):

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil in your life and in the world?

Parents:

I renounce them.

Minister (to the parents): Who is your Lord and Savior?

Parents:

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister (to the parents):

Do you promise to instruct these children in the truth of God's word, in the way of salvation through Jesus Christ; to pray for them, to teach them to pray; and to train them in Christ's way by your example, through worship, and in the nurture of the church?

Parents:

I do, and I ask God to help me.

Minister (to the congregation):

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support these brothers and sisters by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

Congregation:

We do.

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The sacrament of baptism is administered, and pastoral prayer is offered.

The congregation shall stand.

All Joyfully we receive you into the body of Christ. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. Alleluia.

Passing of the Peace

Alleluia. The peace of the risen Christ be with you always. *All* And also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Pre-school children are invited to go to their classes at this time. Elementary children through grade 5 are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Song of Response, following the Reflection.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.

The Word of God

New Testament reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." 9(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: John 20:19-29

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

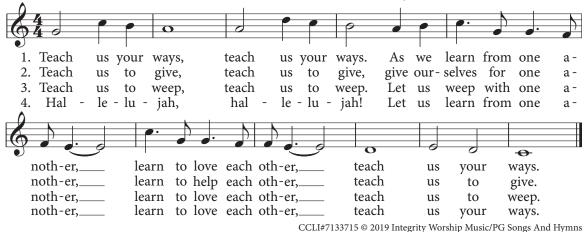
This is the Gospel of the Lord.AllPraise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

"Shared Responsibility" - Rev. Chris Currie

Offertory Teach Us Your Ways

Leslie Jordan, Aaron Keys, Orlando Palmer, Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach



The offering is part of our worship together, an opportunity to participate in the ministry of Resurrection. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give— we're grateful simply for your presence here today.



resurrectionphl.org/give

When encouraging the early church toward generosity, the Apostle Paul pointed to Jesus' giving of himself:

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich" - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

If you'd like to contribute to the work of our church, you can do so by scanning the QR code at the left or text any amount to the number 84321.

Communion

All

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

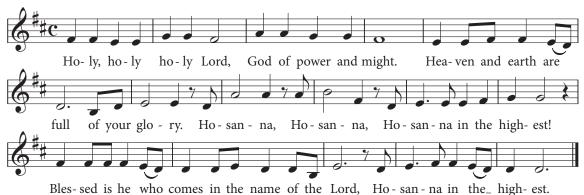
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For in dying for us, Jesus trampled death and conquered sin. By the glory of his resurrection, he opened the way to life eternal, and by his ascension, he gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be. Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy, and with choirs of angels we sing forever to your praise: GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

Communion, also called the Lord's *Supper, is the family* meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus *Christ to participate. If you are not a* follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

Sanctus



The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever.

All Amen.

The minister speaks the Words of Institution.

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

We use wine in Communion. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and a glutenfree option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

Prayers for Reflection

Prayer for those searching | Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

Prayer of belief | Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you, I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

Prayer for those struggling | Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life.

Communion Song Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

John of Damascus, 8th c., John Mason Neale, Johann Horn (alt) 1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad ness; 'Tis the spring of 2. souls to - day; Christ hath burst his pri son, gates of death, Nei-ther might the nor the tomb's dark 3. por tal, "Al - le - u - ia!" now we crv our King im - mor tal. 4. to 0 God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad ness; and from three days' hath sleep in death as а sun ri sen: wat-chers, nor the seal nor the hold thee as а mor tal: who, tri - um-phant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por tal: 0 loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh ters; the win - ter all of our sins, long and dark, is fly _ ing thou didst stand, bes - to but to - day a - midst thine own wing "Al - le - lu - ia!" with the Son, God the Fa - ther prais ing; led them with un - mois-tened foot through the Red Sea wa ters. from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy ing. thine own peace, which pas - seth hu - man e - ver-more kno wing. "Al - le - lu - ia!" a - gain the Spi - rit rais yet to ing.

Prayer after Communion

 All Risen, ascended Lord, as we have been fed at your table and rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace. Amen.

forth to____

Blessing and Sending

then send

us

What Praise Emerged from Waiting Lips



love and serve the_ Christ in

Words ©2002 Hope Publishing Company

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GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

We have responded to God's call, heard his word, offered ourselves to his service, and received strength at his table. Now, at the close of worship, God sends us out to carry forward the gospel story.

Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May God the Father, who has given to his Son the name above every name, strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Dismissal

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

"Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14)

After the service, ministers and elders of the church will be stationed at the front of the sanctuary to offer healing prayer and anointing with oil for those seeking God's healing in any aspect of life: physical, relational, emotional, psychological, or spiritual. If you come for healing prayer, you will not be asked any personal questions about your situation, only for your consent to be anointed with oil on your forehead. Receiving healing prayer and anointing with oil only takes a few seconds, but the practice can be a powerful way to experience God's help in our weakness. Musicians Christopher McDonald: piano, voice Sarah Long: voice Tom Kraines: cello Liturgist Jennifer Cho

Scripture Reading Arlene Navarro

Celebrant Rev. Scott Jennings

Easter Season Sanctuary Installation

Ambitions / Ladders / Abundance

<u>Wounded Lamb</u> (*Center*) Where are my ambitions leading me?

<u>Jacob's Ladder Diptych</u> (*Left*) Where does heaven meet earth?

<u>Town Center</u> (*Right*) Who might be affected if I embraced a spirit of abundance?

Thank you to Resurrection Philadelphia for inviting me to install these works for Holy Week. I find a lot of satisfaction in the intriguing and puzzling textural relationship between cardboard and decaying fresco. This material dialogue became the impetus for my installation.

Caleb Stoltzfus

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CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS gather across the city and region on varying frequencies (weekly/bi-weekly), with the intent of taking up basic practices of fellowship, prayer, and study of the Scriptures. Groups range in size from 10-15 people.

CONNECTION GROUPS provide connection to the life of the church and to one another via shared interests or other affinity (such as mens or womens groups, study groups, prayer groups, service groups, etc.).

To see current groups, visit **resurrectionphl.org/groups** or scan the QR code at right.

FAMILY MINISTRIES come alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- **Children's Ministry.** Our Sunday morning children's classes use a gospel-centered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to help children find their place in God's big story. Children leave the service at the Passing of the Peace. Elementary age children return during the hymn of response. Contact Terri Taylor, terri@resurrectionphl.org
- **Resurrection Youth.** Students Grades 6-12 and Volunteer Leaders gather regularly to hang out, play games, and explore questions of faith and belonging to Christ. Youth Group meets most Sundays from 4-6 pm at the Center City building. For more info, contact Paul Burkhart at paul@ resurrectionphl.org.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS During

the academic year, our university ministry hosts speaker series and dinner discussion groups on campus. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to participate. We also host regular Sunday brunches for graduate students. Reach out to Ryan McCormick (ryan@resurrectionphl. org) for more information about these events.



GROW

Resurrection is a community committed to

growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, Resurrection seeks to become more like Jesus by engaging spiritual practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Join "Resurrection Rhythms" to foster spiritual growth through practices resurrectionphl.org/practices
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox resurrectionphl.org/daily-prayer to help you get started.

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of those who consider Resurrection Philadelphia their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to Resurrection Philadelphia:

- Give online | resurrectionphl.org/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select Resurrection Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: Resurrection Philadelphia, 123 S 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

SERVE

We seek to be a church that demonstrates the love of Christ to our city. This year, our deacons have cultivated partnerships with several local organizations. To view current opportunities to serve, please visit https://www.resurrectionphl.org/serve-city



Announcements

Do You Get Resurrection News?

If not, sign up using the form at the bottom of resurrectionphl.org or by filling out the welcome form at the end of this bulletin.

Last Chance to Join Children's Choir for Pentecost!

We're inviting children 4 years old and up to help lead us in worship on Pentecost Sunday, and it's not too late to join the choir! Come for the last rehearsal, immediately after worship on Sunday, May 12. Contact christopher@resurrectionphl.org and he can send you the song so your child can learn it at home or on the go!

Church-Wide Picnic on Memorial Day

Plan to kick-off the summer with the Resurrection community at a church-wide picnic on Monday, May 27 at Belmont Grove (1800 Belmont Mansion Dr) in Fairmount Park. We'll start gathering around 11 and aim to eat around 12 pm. Plan to bring a blanket or chairs, and any lawn games you'd enjoy sharing. The church will provide burgers and hot dogs, and we'll organize a sign up for sides and desserts.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May

27 - Church-wide picnic

June

23 - Gathering @ Woodland

July

28 - Gathering @ Woodland

Help us welcome you.

Name(s):	
Children & their ages:	
If undergrad or grad student, school & year:	
Address:	
Phone number(s):	
Email(s):	
Please send me: Weekly Newsletter Morning & Evening Prayer	
Please contact me about:	
Community Groups	
Neighborhood Service Opportunities	
□ Volunteering on Sundays	
□ Children's & Youth Ministries	
Meeting with a Pastor	PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM
Other:	

Prayer Requests

Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays. Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.

Please tear off this back page and place in the box by the welcome table.



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