

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Bausman Memorial United Church of Christ

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



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April 26, 2026

9:30am Worship

WELCOME TO BAUSMAN!

1ST TIME GUESTS: Most everything you need is found in this bulletin. Plus, those around you are glad to help and an usher is always available at the main rear entrance. If there are ways we can better extend God's hospitality, leave us a note on the Welcome Card. Your insights are essential as we continue to grow into the community God is calling us to be. Thank you!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Congregational readings are in bold with an *All*, *People*, or *Unison* designation. Songs are in the bulletin or pew hymnal. Times for standing and sitting are listed, with it always being okay to remain seated.

"BUSY BAGS": Coloring books and crayons are available in the north narthex (lobby) for use during worship. Please return all items following the service for others to use the following week. See an usher for assistance.

NURSERY CARE: Available during worship for children birth-kindergarten. The nursery is past the office, to the right. See an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Is held during worship for 1st – 7th graders, except the first Sunday of the month. Youth meet their teachers after the children's message in the sanctuary. Parents, please pick up your child from the 2nd floor classrooms immediately following worship. Follow signs for the office.

RESTROOMS: Ladies and a unisex/accessible bathroom (with wall mounted baby changing table) are available through the doors at the front of the sanctuary. Follow the signs to the office. Bathrooms are on the left.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS: Contain printed scripture and music, in addition to being in a larger font. Ask an usher for a copy.

HEARING ASSISTANCE: Ask an usher at the rear entrance to the sanctuary who will provide you with a device directly tied into the sanctuary sound system. Please return the device to an usher at the conclusion of worship.

GET CONNECTED: Use the pew holder Welcome Card to register your attendance, share contact information, ask questions, and more. Once completed, place it in the offering plates during the offering time.

WIFI & DEVICES: Thank you for silencing all your devices during worship. Bausman's guest wifi is accessible with the passcode: "gladurhere!"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Thoughts: How do you determine if a person is of God? The answer largely comes down to what you expect of God. What do you expect God to act like, be like, or care about? What do you hope God's victory on earth as it is in heaven will bring about? Oddly, depending on what you are looking for, you might call a person the very Son of God or a sinner or a demon. That's what the Pharisees said of Jesus. I wonder if we would do any better?

Opening Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing of Christ's Peace

(Rise in body or spirit to share Christ's peace using customary forms of greeting or by using a peace sign. Please be seated once the prelude begins.)

Prelude: "Songs of Thrace" by Elitsa Alexandrova

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into our presence, calling us to worship)

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Call to Worship

Pastor: All around us are the signs of God's life and hope.

People: O God, open our eyes to it.

Pastor: All around us the joy of resurrection greets us.

People: O God, open our minds to perceive it.

Pastor: All around us the voice of God proclaims good news.

People: O God, open our ears to hear it.

Pastor: All around us the Spirit leads us in Christ's way.

People: O God, open our souls to follow it.

Pastor: ...and who calls us by name, so that we may know the way to go that leads to life, and it in abundance.

**People: Glory be to God, who saves us and claims us, and all of this world.
Amen!**

WE CONFESS OUR NEED FOR HEALING & GRACE

Call to Confession

Corporate Confessional

All: Saving God, forgive us when we think only to feed ourselves
and to care for our own needs.

Forgive us for the times we have not strengthened the weak,
healed the sick, bound up the injured, brought back the stray,
sought out the lost, or otherwise cared for those at risk of harm.

Forgive us all the times we have failed to follow
in the way of the Good Shepherd – whose way is mercy,
whose purpose is peace, and whose gift is the abundance of life.

Hear us and heal us, O God. Amen.

Personal Silent Confession

(Personal prayers for God's healing and redeeming peace)

Assurance of Grace

Pastor: ...and share in the bounty of life God has provided for all.

People: Praise be to the risen Christ, who opens wide the gate of salvation.

All: Amen!

Confession Response *(Unison)*

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three staves. The first staff is for the Leader, with the label "Leader" above it. The second staff is for Equal voices, with the label "Equal voices" above it. The third staff is for Mixed voices, with the label "Mixed voices" above it. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are placed below the notes they correspond to.

(Please be seated)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S LIVING WORD

Children's Anthem - "He is Lord" - folk tune

Soloists - Caitlin Motz, Oliver Keller

Message for the Young & Young at Heart

(All youth are invited to come forward to the front steps. Those in 1st-7th grades are dismissed to Sunday School or back to their guardians following the message.)

Prayer of Illumination

All: Lord God, you have declared that your kingdom is among us.

**Open our eyes to see it, our ears to hear it, our hearts to hold it,
and our hands to serve it.**

Let us receive your living Word

that we may share in the way and the truth of the resurrection.

Through Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 23 (p. #501)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Gospel Lesson: John 10:1-10 (p. #103)

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “I Came That They May Have Life”

Chancel Choir Anthem: “All the Way My Savior Leads Me” - Tomlin/Redman

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

**All: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
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 of Tithes and Offerings

*(Electronic & physical giving options are available through the pew envelope.
Register your attendance with a Welcome Card or using Realm’s mobile check-in.)*

Offertory: “His Eye Is On The Sparrow”
by Charles H. Gabriel arr. by Brooke Boddie

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Offering Response *(Unison)*

Musical score for Offering Response (Unison) in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be-low; Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The melody is simple and homophonic, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

Prayer of Dedication

All: Blessed God, in the joy of Christ's resurrection
we offer ourselves, and our gifts, for the service of your reign.
Multiply these our offerings
for the purposes of bringing life out of death, hope out of despair,
joy out of grief, that through our faithfulness
all creation may come to know and rejoice in you.
Through Jesus' glorious name, we pray. Amen.

WE GO WITH GOD'S CALLING

Recessional Hymn: "I Come to the Garden Alone" (p. #237)

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into the world, as the choir leads us in the way.)

Commissioning & Benediction

Chimes

Postlude: "Agni Parthene" by St Nektarios of Aegina & Hieromonk Gregory of Simonopetra Monastery, transcribed by Benjamin Reber

(As the postlude concludes, go in peace to love and serve at the calling of God.)

Welcome Ben Reber, Harpist:

Ben Reber is 26 years old and has played the harp for almost 10 years. He enjoys performing on the worship team at his home church and composing when he has the opportunity. He has participated in the Berks County Sr High Orchestra, District Orchestra, and was an invited member of the Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra for their spring season in 2018. He performs in various venues throughout Pennsylvania. Along with the harp, Ben plays 9 other various instruments, Welcome Ben!

THIS WEEK AT BAUSMAN

Sunday, April 26 – Harpist, Benjamin Reber

- 8:30 AM Chancel Choir
- 9:30AM Worship, Sunday School, Nursery
- 3:00 PM Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 PM Boy Scouts Committee Meeting - Library

Monday, April 27

- 8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level
- 11:00 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Property – Conference Room

Tuesday, April 28

- 8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 29

- 8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level
- 11:30 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 30

- 8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 AM Women’s Recovery Group, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Bell Choir, Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Friday, May 1

- 8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 3

- 8:30 AM Chancel Choir
- 9:30AM Worship, Pew Communion, Nursery, First Sunday Fellowship
- 3:00 PM Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting – Library

PRAYERS & CARES

Congregational Cards of Care

God invites us to share life-giving love through our faith. One way to do this is to weekly join in our “Cards of Care” ministry. This week we are uplifting Jeffrey Hefner, who is one of our Home Congregants. Stop by the table in the front left corner of the sanctuary to add your name and care to this week’s card. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

Thank you for joining in the joy and care of others by including the following prayers in your prayer times. Submit your prayer requests by using a Prayer Card, contacting the church office, or the prayer chain coordinator (Cece Wagner). Prayer requests are maintained for up to four weeks and can be resubmitted an unlimited number of times. When possible, please check with the person before submitting their name.

Praise & Celebrations: St. Paul’s UCC, Birdsboro & Pastor Deborah Parker-Hill

Healing & Strengthening: Helen Fisher; Mary Hollinger; Ellen; Kathy Bailey

Care & Support: Randy Ulmer; Commander Alison (Derr) Maruca & Family; Rev. Millard Fisher

Comfort In Time of Loss: The Family of Priscilla Walsky

Birthdays Celebrated this Week

4/28 Natalie Motz

Vicky Derr

4/29 Nicolette Miller

5/2 Pastor Joe Motz

5/3 Kaitlyn Brunner

Anniversaries Celebrated this Week

4/30 Tom & Sue Wentzel

Worship Information

Sponsorships

Bulletins: To the Glory of God by Sue Wentink

Today's Worship Leaders

Ministers: All Members

Head Usher: Tom Wentzel

Ushers: Maria Colon, Tom Reardon, Shelby Brunner, Kathy Errich

Acolyte: Stella and Beatrice Spayd

Reader: Peggy Brown

Welcome: Shelby Brunner

Minister of Music: Sharon Luyben

Preacher: Rev. Joseph Motz

Nursery: Amalia Cannon

Livestream: Ryan Stone

Sound: Rod Baer

Altar Guild: Margie Baer

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Last Week's Worship

Worship Attendance: In Person: 63

Online: 16

Offerings Received for God's Ministry:

General Fund: In person \$3574.00 Online: \$804.00

**“LOOK AND SEE”
WHAT IS HAPPENING AT BAUSMAN!
APRIL 26, 2026**

(Visit bausmanucc.org and sign up for the weekly e-blasts as well)

Knit Hat Yarn Drive - April marks the Knit Hat Ministry yarn drive and donation of gift cards to purchase supplies needed. Last year our team of knitters and loomers made 1,112 hats that were given to 12 area organizations including the Lakota Native Americans in South Dakota. Usually, one skein of yarn can complete 1-2 hats. That is a lot of yarn. We are looking for donations of #4 and #6 yarn.

If interested in joining us with knitting or looming hats, please contact Bonnie Shiner at 610-823-6701. It is easy to learn how to make the hats and we can assist you with instructions, and supplies. If knitting or crocheting is not your thing, please consider helping us with a donation of yarn or gift card. Any yarn donation can be left in the bins in the East Narthex or in the library. We greatly appreciate your help.

Strengthen The Church Offering - From May 3, 2026, till May 31, 2026, we will be collecting for our 2nd UCC offering. The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. Please join us in planting the seeds needed to grow and sustain our denomination by making a gift to the Strengthen the Church Offering.

Mother’s Day Flower Sale – May 9, 2026 / 9am-Noon - The Flower Sale will take place in the half-circle drive of the church. In the event of rain, items will be in the Fellowship Hall. There will be various plants, deck and memorial boxes available for purchase.

POWWOW on Manatawny Creek - On May 2 & 3, Reflections of Turtle Island will hold their annual Powwow on Manatawny Creek at Riverfront Park in Pottstown, PA. Experience the vibrant culture, powerful stories, and deep roots of Native American communities that have shaped our history and still influence the world today. At the Powwow there are Native American Dance Exhibitions, Crafts and Displays, Delicious Food and Children’s Activities. Reflections of Turtle Island is a SOAR mission that Bausman supports with knit hats and a financial gift for supplies and delivery of those supplies to the Lakota Reservation in Wanblee, South Dakota.

Special Congregational Meeting – May 17, Following Worship - Mark your calendar to attend a special congregational meeting that will directly impact Bausman’s ministry for the next 10-20 years. In other words, this is a really important special congregational meeting. The primary focus is to evaluate Consistory’s recommendation to move forward with a building site assessment and accessibility study that will serve as the basis for beginning a major capital campaign, in the next 1-3 years, to begin implementing needed care and improvements to the church building. Members are welcome to attend the meeting in person or online. Look for a special member communication with additional details on the proposal, the full meeting agenda, and guidance on how to participate remotely.



Memorial Day Sunday—Honoring of Loved Ones - This year, Memorial Day Sunday falls on Pentecost Sunday. To help us honor both, we are seeking the names, rank, and branch of service of Bausman’s members, friends, and family members who served in the United States Military and are no longer alive. Individuals need not have died in active service, nor in an armed conflict. The names will be included in a special Sunday insert and uplifted during the prayers of the people. The information for your loved ones and family members can be shared through the QR code or by contacting the church office.



William N. Luyben Memorial Scholarship - Applications are currently being accepted for the William N. Luyben Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is to be presented to members of Bausman Memorial United Church of Christ seeking further education following graduation or enrolled in a post-secondary education program. For the full list of qualifications and the application, please scan the QR code or contact Jodi Reardon. **Application deadline is May 17, 2026.**

Seeking Partner Leaders - Last year's VBS program was such a blast that we are looking to grow upon it this summer. One of the things that made it such a great time was the depth of leadership and volunteers. Would you like to help out this year? We are looking for leaders and volunteers in the following areas: **Meals | Games | Crafts | Decorations | Teaching.** Contact Pastor Joe to share your interest and to learn more! (Note: PA criminal history and PA child abuse clearances less than 5 years old are required for all volunteers except the decorating team. Clearances are free for volunteers and easily completed online).

Looking to Expand the Livestreaming & Sound System Team - Every week, over 10% of Bausman's worshipping congregation can be found online. This is a highly valued lifeline to a multitude of members and guests who desire worship and connection but are limited in their ability to do so in person. If you are interested in exploring service through this ministry, please reach out to Kyla Andre (livestream) and Rod Baer (sound) who are glad to help you discern if this ministry is right for you.



The Keystone Connection

A Message to the Conference

April 21, 2026

Members and Friends of Keystone Conference,

“They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, and while he was opening the scriptures to us?’”

I’m writing this a few days before the Gettysburg Association Spring Meeting on April 19, when the story of the disciples’ encounter with Jesus on the Road to Emmaus appears in the lectionary. The photo I’m sharing is a picture of a road that I took last month from the top of the Pennsylvania Monument in Gettysburg National Military



Park. I’ve been thinking a lot about roads lately because I’m on them a lot! Over the past several months, I’ve become more familiar with roads and places in parts of Pennsylvania where I’ve never really been. It has been an adventure, and the road is often a place where God reveals new things to us.

The story of the Road to Emmaus is one such story in which the disciples fail to recognize who Jesus is. They meet a stranger on the road, and the disciples think he needs some proper instruction. They tell him about all that happened to Jesus and then invite him to stay with them. Then, Jesus turns the tables on them; the guest becomes the host, and they recognize him in the breaking of the bread.

The Keystone Conference is on the road! The journey together has just begun, and we can expect adventures along the way. But perhaps the greatest adventure we can seek is the opportunity to encounter Jesus in unexpected places along the way. We may think we are taking Jesus to people when we go places, but really, we are the ones who get to meet Jesus when we encounter strangers who turn the tables on us. That’s something to look forward to together. Traveling mercies to all of you!

David

Rev. David Ackerman

Transitional Regional Conference Minister, Region 3

Keystone Conference

Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ's first Annual Meeting will be held June 5-7 at Millersville University in Millersville. Overnight accommodations will be on campus as well as the DoubleTree Hilton in Lancaster. Registration is now open! Register here: <https://keystoneconference.regfox.com/2026-spring-meeting> (or go to keystoneucc.org and click on the Annual Meeting tab under News & Events.)

Our theme is "Joy at the Table Together" and our centering scripture is Acts 2:46-47 "Every day they met together, breaking bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God." The meeting will include a Service of Consecration for Keystone Conference.

Speakers will include Rev. Dr. Marcia McFee, author of *Think Like a Filmmaker: Sensory-Rich Worship for Unforgettable Messages*; Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ; Rev. Dr. Mary Luti, author of *Do This: Communion for Just and Courageous Living*; Rev. Greg Edwards, Executive Director of POWER Interfaith, Secretary Russell Redding, PA Secretary of Agriculture, and Rev. Freeman Palmer, Conference Minister for the Central Atlantic Conference.

50 Days of Easter Food Challenge

A People of the Table Mission Project for Keystone Conference's 1st Annual Meeting

The Challenge: Churches across the Conference are challenged to donate non-perishable food to a local food bank between Easter (04/05/2026) and Pentecost (05/24/2026) and to report the quantities of their donations.

Each church will report its totals (by category) via a web link, and the Conference-wide total will be revealed at the 1st Annual Meeting, June 5–7, 2026. Using categories such as canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, pasta and rice, toiletries, and more will provide an easy-to-visualize picture of the breadth of donations.

Learn more at keystoneucc.org/people-of-the-table/

Attention Youth Campers and Families,

Please read the following information carefully, as the Conference policy for supplementing youth summer camping has changed.

For the 2026 summer season, the Keystone Conference will campership or reimburse 30% of the cost for one youth to attend one summer camping experience. If a youth attends more than one camp during the summer, only one camp will be eligible for the 30% reimbursement. Please use the application for additional camps if this creates a hardship.

Learn more and download the application under the campership section of keystoneucc.org/mission-grants-committee/

Living Waters Camp & Conference Center Schellsburg, PA

Trustin' Jesus! Summer Camps

Fishing Camp - June 28 to July 2, for grades 6 to 12

Primary (grades K - 3) - July 5 to 11

Elementary Camp (grades 4 - 6) - July 5 to 11

Junior-Senior High Camp - July 12 - 18

Grandparent / Grandchild Camp is July 12 to 15

Learn more at livingwaterscamp.org

HC Spirit Camp is hosted at Hartman Center Campground, Milroy, PA . The theme for HC Spirit 2026 is "In the Wilderness." Camp runs from July 26 - August 1, 2026. Registration is now open—check hcspiritcamp.org for more info and registration.

Now the Green Blade Rises

238

John M. C. Crum, 1928; alt.

Matt. 27:57-28:7; Luke 23:50-24:12

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain;
2 In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
3 Christ came forth at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

Wheat that in dark earth for man - y days has lain;
Think - ing that their Love would nev - er wake a - gain,
Je - sus, who for three days in the grave had lain,
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life a - gain,

Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
Quick from the dead the ris - en One is seen:
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Refrain
Love is come a - gain like wheat that ris - es green.

John M. C. Crum, an English priest who was canon of Canterbury for fifteen years, wrote these words for this ancient French Christmas carol tune when it was included in the Oxford Book of Carols (1928).

Tune: NOËL NOUVELET 11.10.10.11.
French noel, 15th century
Harm. Martin F. Shaw, 1928

I Come to the Garden Alone

(In the Garden)

John 20:14-18

C. Austin Miles, 1912

1 I come to the gar-den a-lone, while the dew is still on the
 2 He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their
 3 I'd stay in the gar-den with him, though the night a-round me be

ros-es; And the voice I hear, fall-ing on my ear, the
 sing-ing; And the mel-o-dy that he gave to me with-
 fall-ing; But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his

Refrain

Son of God dis-clos-es.
 in my heart is ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he
 voice to me is call-ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, And the

joy we share as we tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.

C. Austin Miles wrote this hymn and its music to tell the story of Mary Magdalene's encounter with Jesus at the tomb, when she recognizes him and calls him "Rabboni" ("Teacher"),

Tune: GARDEN 8.9.5.5.7. with refrain
 C. Austin Miles, 1912