

EASTER



Bausman Memorial United Church of Christ

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



1064 Penn Avenue, Wyomissing, PA 19610

office@bausmanucc.org | 610-375-9790 | bausmanucc.org

www.facebook.com/bausmanucc

April 5, 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. Join us next week for Sunday School!

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: The Easter story of Jesus' resurrection is unbelievable. It makes absolutely no sense. It defies every truth and rational thought. It just couldn't possibly have happened. And yet, maybe that is the cornerstone of its deeper truth. See, Jesus' teachings are unbelievable, they make no sense, they defy truth and rational thought, and they aren't how things happen in the hardnosed realities of this life. They can't possibly be true. At least not in the way he says. Unless, that is, Jesus was raised from the dead. That would change everything.

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: "Christ the Lord Risen Today" - arr. by Barbara B. Kinyon
Bausman Bell Choir

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

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Call to Worship

Pastor: Sing aloud, O people! Sing aloud to the Lord your God!

People: **For God has done excellent things!**

Pastor: Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, all the earth!

People: **For God has revealed his redeeming power!**

Pastor: God births life out of death and hope out of despair.

God makes new what was lost and restores what was brought low.

People: **Nothing stands outside the power of God.**

Pastor: Though death thought it had its day,

as Jesus was brought to lie in the tomb.

But this is the third day, and as Jesus said, so it has come to be.

Christ is Risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Alleluia! Let us pray...

...Praise be to you, Almighty God, Savior of the world,
in whose name we gather for worship and praise!

People: Amen!

Processional Hymn: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (p. #233)

WE CONFESS OUR NEED FOR HEALING & GRACE

Call to Confession

Corporate Confessional

**All: God of our risen Savior, we acknowledge before you and one another
that we are a people in need of your salvation.**

**Though aware of sin's destructive power,
too often we allow anger, hatred, bitterness, and jealousy
to fill our minds and fester in our hearts.**

**Though aware of your call upon the entirety of our lives,
too often we offer you only the scraps of our lives.**

**Though desperately longing for life,
too often we put our hope in what leads to death and despair.**

**Forgive us, O God. Give us the faith of Christ,
that we may die to sin's power, and in that death
be raised to the new life of your way, your truth, and your light.**

Through Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Personal Silent Confession

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

Assurance of Grace

Pastor: ...that whosoever believes in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.

People: In Christ we are saved. In God we are made alive again!

Pastor: Glory be to God, who withholds not even the Son,
for the healing and redeeming of the world.

People: Amen!

Confession Response *(Unison)*

Leader *Equal voices*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Mixed voices

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

(Please be seated)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S LIVING WORD

Message for the Young & Young at Heart

(All youth are invited to come forward to the front steps. No Sunday School today.)

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.**

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:12-22 (p. #176)

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human, for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 28:1-15 (p. #33)

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. After the priests had assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money to the soldiers, telling them, “You must say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ If this comes to the governor’s ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story is still told among the Judeans to this day.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “What Will You Believe?”

WE RESPOND TO GOD

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Statement of Faith – Apostles Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

**And in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Chancel Choir Anthem: “An Easter Processional”
Setting by Howard Helvey

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: “Fairest Lord Jesus” - German Folk Melody

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Offering Response (Unison)

The musical score is written for a unison voice part in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef staff with the melody and a bass clef staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics for the first system are: "Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;". The second system also has a treble clef staff with the melody and a bass clef staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics for the second system are: "Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The score ends with a double bar line.

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 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn: "Be Known To Us in Breaking Bread" (p. #342)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has two verses of lyrics. The second system has two lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

1 Be known to us in break-ing bread, but do not then de - part;
2 Here share with us in love di - vine, your bod - y and your blood;

O Sav - ior, stay with us and spread your ta - ble in our heart.
That liv - ing bread, that heav-en-ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Invitation

Pastor: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People: People will come from the east and the west,
from the north and the south,
and will sit at the table with Christ in the kingdom of God.

Pastor: This is the Lord's Table,
which he has prepared through his body and blood.
inviting all who trust in him, to share in the feast of his life,
so that we may be united in the fullness of his being.

People: Come Lord Jesus, raising us to your life this day.

Great Communion Prayer

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: ...and with the abundance of joy in our hearts,
we praise your holy name.

Seraphic Hymn *(Sung in Unison)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth.

Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Pastor: ...while spreading wide the heavenly banquet of your promise.

**All: Through this meal of sacrifice and love,
make us your servant church,
that we may be salt, and light, and leaven
for the furtherance of your will in all the world.**

Amen.

Agnus Dei

Pastor: O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Pastor: O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: Have mercy upon us.

Pastor: O Christ, thou Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: Grant us your peace. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Sharing of Elements – Pew Communion

(All who seek to unite their lives in discipleship to Christ are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will serve the bread – gluten free option in the center. Then the trays of red wine and white grape juice. Hold each element until invited to consume that we may be united as one body in our receiving. Place empty cups in the pew holders.)

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Almighty God, we give you thanks

**for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
and the glories of heaven shared with us this day.**

Send us now into your world with your peace,

**strengthened in your faith, rejoicing in your glories,
proclaiming the Good News of Christ’s resurrection,**

as we continue to praise you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

WE GO WITH GOD’S CALLING

Recessional Hymn: “The Day of Resurrection” (p. #245)

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

Commissioning & Benediction

Pastor: Though death and darkness had done their worst,

People: **It is now the third day.**

Pastor: Though evil thought it was the victor,

People: **Today is the day of resurrection!**

Pastor: God has given himself to us in Jesus Christ.

People: **Now we give ourselves to others.**

Pastor: With Jesus, God has raised us to new life.

People: **We are a people of the resurrection.**

Pastor: May Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit –
ever guide you in the glory of Jesus’s saving power,
blessing you with the strength and courage
to live as a resurrection people.

People: **Alleluia! Christ is risen!**

Pastor: Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

All: **Amen!**

Chimes

Postlude: “Easter Postlude” on “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” - Edward F. Johnson pup

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

THIS WEEK AT BAUSMAN

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

8:30 AM Chancel Choir
9:30AM Worship, Nursery

Monday, April 6 – Church Office Closed

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level
11:00 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall
7:30 PM Recovering Couples Group – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, April 7

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Worship & Music - Library

Wednesday, April 8

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level
11:30 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall
2:00 PM Generosity – Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 9

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall
10:30 AM Women’s Recovery Group, Fellowship Hall
1:00 PM Generosity – Conference Room
6:30 PM Bell Choir, Sanctuary
7:30 PM Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Friday, April 10

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

Sunday, April 12

8:30 AM Chancel Choir
9:30AM Worship, Sunday School, Nursery
1:00 PM Girl Scouts Troop 1693 – Room 22
4:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 192 – Fellowship Hall
6:45 PM Boy Scout Troop 413 – Fellowship Hall

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 Bob Glasgow, who now lives far from Bausman. 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 (Mary Moll). 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. Luke's Union UCC, Shoemakersville

Healing & Strengthening: Debbie Brubaker; Linnette; Rev. Millard Fisher; Pidge Brown; Kathy Bailey; Helen Fisher; Mary Hollinger

Care & Support: Randy Ulmer; Commander Alison (Derr) Maruca & Family; Major Jamie Derr & Family; Jewish Committees Throughout the World; Carly Shuttlesworth Coquoz; Carolyn Fisher

Birthdays Celebrated this Week

4/6 Barry Weinhold
Dan Fetherolf

4/10 Andrea Brunner

4/12 Ms. Susan Wentink

Worship Information

Sponsorships

Bulletins: To the Glory of God by Nancy Helbig

Today's Worship Leaders

Ministers: All Members

Head Usher: Nevin Hollinger

Ushers: Shelby Brunner, Cece Wagner, Mike Ritter, Max Spayd, Anne Anders, Jim Payne, Cindra Payne, Kathy Errich

Acolyte: TBD

Reader: Shelby Brunner

Welcome: Cece Wagner

Minister of Music: Sharon Luyben

Preacher: Rev. Joseph Motz

Nursery: Amalia Cannon

Livestream: Rick Shiner

Sound: Rod Baer

Altar Guild: Margie Baer

Elders: *Shelby Brunner, *Jim Payne, Cece Wagner, Mike Ritter, Max Spayd, Cindra Payne, Anne Anders, Kathy Errich, Sue Showalter (choir) (*uncover and cover elements)

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Last Week's Worship

Worship Attendance: In Person: 84

Online: 8

Offerings Received for God's Ministry:

General Fund: In person \$1243

Online: \$1044

OGHS: \$10

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

- In Memory of Rochelle (Shelly) Graeff by Stan Graeff
- In Memory of Brandon Field by Stan Graeff
- In Memory of Juliana and Joseph Miller by Eric Miller and Family
- In Memory of Peter Zeppos by Eric Miller and Family
- In Memory of Maude McGavin by Eric Miller and Family
- In Memory of Loved Ones by Barry and Debbie Weinhold
- In Memory of Les Moll by Mary Moll and Family
- In Memory of Bill and Timothy by Mary Moll and Family
- In Memory of the C. Wilbur Love Family by Sharon Luyben and Family
- In Memory of William N. Luyben by Sharon Luyben and Family
- In Memory of Our Parents by Rod and Margie Baer
- In Memory of Mary Wentink by Sue Wentink
- In Memory of Hendrik Wentink by Sue Wentink
- In Memory of Jeanne Guinther by Sue Wentink
- In Memory of Les Moll by Sue Wentink
- In Memory of Our Parents by George and Lori Moser
- In Memory of Dr. Cory Jones by Anne Anders and Family
- In Memory of Loved Ones by Bob and Sue Showalter
- In Memory of Tom Freymoyer by Gail Freymoyer
- In Memory of My Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lenich, by Cheryl Auman
- In Memory of Ardell Shiner by Rick and Bonnie Shiner
- In Memory of Keith and Evelyn Freeman by Rick and Bonnie Shiner
- In Memory of Albert Shiner by Rick and Bonnie Shiner

**“LOOK AND SEE”
WHAT IS HAPPENING AT BAUSMAN!
APRIL 5, 2026**

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

Easter Endowment Offering – Today, please consider a special donation to one of Bausman’s Endowments. Endowment giving reflects Easter hope. It proclaims faith in God to transcend the power of death as our gifts of love, rebirth, hope, and strength provide for generations to come. Bausman Endowments Funds are:

Permanent Endowment

Has funds that were donated by living members, designated gifts when a member died, and bequests contributed via a deceased member’s will. Principal monies donated to this account remain invested, while a percentage of the 3-year average of the total return (5% or \$4,645.46) is permitted to be withdrawn and used by the church.

Quasi Endowment

Also have funds that were donated over many years. The name of this account indicates it has some, but not all the features of a permanent endowment fund. Financial draws of principal on this account may be approved by the Consistory, when needed for emergencies or special needs.

Luyben Music Endowment

Has funds that were donated over the years to honor our Minister of Music, Sharon Luyben for her dedicated Christian musical leadership and longevity of service. This fund annually provides special musical groups that enhance our worship experience, such as brass quintets, flute ensembles, violinists, harpists, etc.

Please know that every endowment gift is a gift of the heart, given with a reverent spirit. You can make your contribution by using the Special Easter Offering Envelope in your box of envelopes; by indicating “Easter Endowment Offering” on an envelope in the pew racks; or by using our online giving option that designates the 3 eligible Endowment Funds (Permanent, Quasi, or Luyben Music). Please prayerfully consider supporting our church in this special way to continue providing the Bausman legacy!



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.

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.

Mother’s Day Flower Sale – May 9, 2026 / 9am-Noon - The Flower Sale items 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.



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.

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).

Livestreaming & Sound System Team Members Wanted - 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.

Delegate for the Keystone Conference Spring Meeting - Consistory is looking for a person to be Bausman's 3rd delegate at the first Keystone Conference spring meeting June 5-7 at Millersville University. If anyone is interested, please see Bob or Sue Showalter.

Become a Bulletin Sponsor –Become a bulletin sponsor by using the Sign-up forms and calendar poster located on the doors by the church office. Bulletin sponsorship is \$15 each or 2 for \$25. Several dates are available in August, October, November & December. June, July & September have 1 date available, each.

How to Get Free Money for Bausman Using your Redner's Card - Remember to scan your Redner's Card at checkout. Then submit your full receipt to the church office or place in the East Narthex collection box. Friends and family can support Bausman with their receipts as well! Redner's gives the church 1% for every purchase. But it only applies when you scan your card at checkout.



The Keystone Connection

A Message to the Conference

March 24, 2026

Dear Keystone Members and Friends –

We're at the beginning of Holy Week, with a multitude of services on the horizon. Pastors, musicians, and lay leaders alike have diligently planned and prepared them for weeks, if not months. Holy Week is deep in my bones, both as a follower of Jesus and a ministerial servant of the church, but that wasn't always the case. As a youth, I became a Christian and joined a low-church tradition that seemingly skipped over Palm Sunday and went straight to Easter. Perhaps we did pay attention to it, but the fact I can't remember whether we did is a clue that we probably didn't.

But now I can't imagine ignoring all the moments that form the spine of Holy Week, services like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. There are reasons why most Christians repeat the narrative of Jesus' last week in worship services, and perhaps one is that it's a reminder that the resurrection of our Lord didn't just happen. It included stories of hope, hurt, betrayal, confusion, and death – and a deep despair in which hope itself seemed buried in the tomb alongside Jesus. Each of those moments is important to remember, to know deep in our bones, before we get to that good day, when we find out yet again that resurrection is the end of all the stories that God writes, and God writes them all. On behalf of the staff of the Conference, we wish you a Holy week, and a day full of joy on Easter morn'.

Rev. Kevin McLemore

Transitional Regional Conference Minister - Region I

Keystone Conference UCC

At the Keystone Conference Transitional Board Meeting on March 23, 2026, the following items were discussed:

1. The Board Reviewed a number of the insights that we gained from our January planning retreat and testing out our planning process by developing goals for the People of the Table.
2. The Budget and Finance Committee reported that funds from the historic Pennsylvania Southeast Conference have been transferred to Keystone. The remaining three Conference are engaged in a similar process.
3. The Governance Committee is finalizing a series of additions and amendments to the Bylaws that will be acted on at our Annual Meeting in June.
4. The Transitional Regional Conference Ministers shared report about their various activities. Nora, Kevin and David reported on their pastoral and spiritual work, administrative leadership, Congregation and Association Support, Leadership Development, and Representational Duties. The Board noted that all three are have been present at many different places and events. Thank you Nora, Kevin and David.

Rev. Dr. David DeRemer

Board Moderator

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.

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. Keep checking in at hcspiritcamp.org for the upcoming brochure and registration links

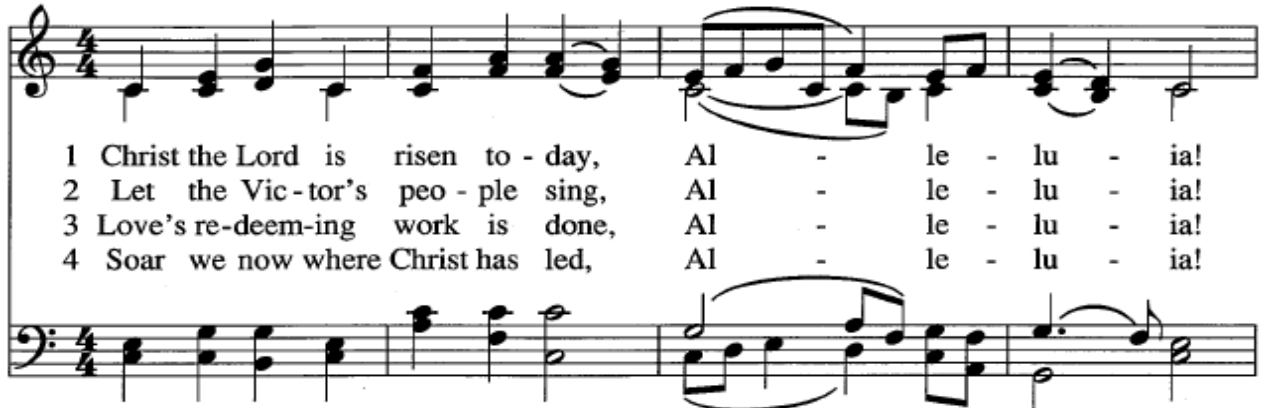
Ideas for Earth Month from Keystone Climate Justice Team:

For Earth Month encourage your members to join the fourth annual Earth Summit on April 25, 1:00pm - 3:30pm. The theme this year is "A Future with Hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). To ground and inspire us as people of faith in difficult times, the Jim Antal Keynote Address will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Kenneth Samuel, a renowned advocate and organizer for justice who serves as the pastor of Victory for the World Church in Decatur, Georgia. Register by going to ucc.org/event/2026-earth-summit/

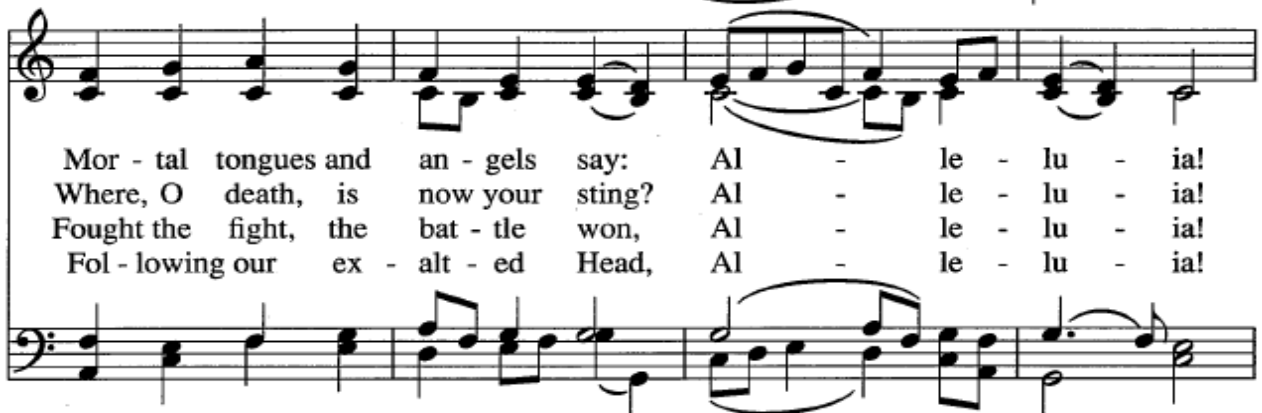
Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.




1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!



Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!



Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

The unknown editor of Lyra Davidica wanted music with more movement and spirit than found in the grave, slow-paced psalm tunes, with one note to a syllable. Easter Hymn was among the first of a new popular style.

Tune: EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with alleluias
 Arr. from Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

The Day of Resurrection

245

*John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.*

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;
From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,
our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

*A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn.
John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.*

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836