



5th Sunday of Easter

APRIL 28, 2024 ~ 10:55 A.M.

Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

organized 1873 ... a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church

a family of believers seeking to live out the truth of the Gospel to the community and the world

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AROUND 10:55 A.M.

PRELUDE & †SILENT PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

LET US USE THIS TIME OF MUSIC AND PRAYER TO INVITE GOD'S SPIRIT TO OPEN US TO HIS PRESENCE

O Father God of the risen Christ, in whose resurrection we find new life, send your Spirit to dwell among us in this day of worship. O risen Christ, Son of the Father, may we hear your word of peace today. O Spirit of the living God, teach us once more to live in the power of Christ's resurrection, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

PSALM 22:25-31

***HYMN #340**

AMID THE THRONING WORSHIPERS

FOREST GREEN

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

1 JOHN 4:7-21

†CONFESSION OF SIN

PRAYED TOGETHER

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured.

There is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal.

God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free. Receive the forgiving love of God.

Thanks be to God.

***HYMN #580**

JESUS CALLS US O'ER THE TUMULT

GALILEE

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

SAID TOGETHER

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And 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, 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 Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN, AGE 3 - 2ND GRADE, DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH
PARENTS MAY COLLECT THEIR CHILDREN IN THE PARLOR AFTER THE SERVICE

THE MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S 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.

THE MORNING OFFERING & OFFERTORY

*HYMN #809

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 15:1-8

THE SERMON

*HYMN #502

AMAZING GRACE

NEW BRITAIN

*BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

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Worship Notes

Musicians - Kathryn Tucker & Jack Criswell Acolytes - Renea Tyler & Marley Carter

Lay Reader - Brandon Wilson Audio Visual - Tim Pague, Russ & Benn Robertson

Nursery: birth - age 2 - Douthat Family upstairs nursery during the Worship hour

Children's Church: age 3 - 2nd Grade - Brenda Meredith downstairs during the Worship hour

Next Sunday, May 5, the Sixth Sunday of Easter - the scheduled texts are:

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98:1-9, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

Communion ... We customarily celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month. The next observance is planned for Sunday, May 12.

Announcements

Table Talk Magazine ... the May issue is available in the narthex for those who subscribed.

Prayer & Bible Study: Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. ... We'll begin with a time of prayer for those things that weigh upon our hearts, our homes, communities, nation and the world. We'll then dive deep into Jesus' description of the Kingdom of God and what it means to follow him. **We'll study Matthew 5-7 together.** Plan to join us - bring your Bible, a notebook, and a friend.

EPC Women's Bible Study - the Book of Hebrews ... We have just started a new study, using the book Better, a Study Guide for the Book of Hebrews by Jen Wilkin. We are now meeting at the church in the Fellowship Hall every other Thursday morning from 10:00 to 12:00. A significant time commitment is required for at-home study and preparation, but we have found it to be very beneficial for growing in our faith and knowledge of the Bible. We've also enjoyed growing closer together through prayer and fellowship in this small group. If you are interested in joining us, please contact **Brenda Meredith** for a schedule and information about purchasing a book. You can reach Brenda at: (434) 509-3003 text & voice or email her at brendameredith@comcast.net.

Join us next Sunday, May 5th for a Cinco de Mayo Feast ... We hope you join us after worship next Sunday, May 5 for a Mexican/Latino feast. The church will provide tacos, all the fixin's and beverages. We're asking you to bring desserts. Let us know you and yours plan to attend by signing up on the sheet on the bulletin board by the kitchen window or by emailing us at elonchurch@elonchurch.org.

2024 Stewardship Report (Totals do not include Special Mission)						
rounding may cause amounts to be off by +/- \$1						
Budget	Current Expenses	Mission	Special Mission	2¢-a-meal	Building Fund	Totals <small>(CE, Mission, BF)</small>
Weekly Need	2,885	393	n/a	n/a	0	3,278
Offering Last Week	5,842	80	500	219	75	5,997
Year To Date	54,236	7,705	1,580	712	1,750	63,691
Ahead/ (Behind) for Year	8,079	1,416	n/a	n/a	1,750	11,245

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Calendar This Week

Tue Apr 30	7 p.m. Sermon on the Mount Bible Study Brian Pieklik's Birthday
Wed May 1	Jamie Tucker's Birthday
Fri May 3	Landry Falls' Birthday
Sun May 5	David & Jamie Tucker's Anniversary

Attendance Numbers

Sunday	Sunday School	Sunday Worship
Apr 21	18	62
Apr 14	15	49
Apr 7	11	55
Mar 31	15	63

PRAYER CONCERNS

HEALTH

Valeria Allen: *a series of procedures to address severe back pain* • 1737 Cedar Gate Rd., Madison Heights VA 24572

Sawyer Harris: *brain tumor, loss of hearing, back on chemo* • David Harris' nephew • 3550 Sterling Rd., Roanoke VA 24014

Randall Harris: *heart issues being monitored and treated with Rx* • 287 Dogwood Dr., Madison Heights VA 24572

John Herman: *inner ear balance dysfunction - blurred vision, dizziness* • 121 Sage Ln., Madison Heights VA 24572

Tom Moore: *chemotherapy* • 967 Elon Rd., Madison Heights VA 24572

Faye O'Brien: *thanks for your prayers!* • 225 Serenity Dr., Monroe VA 24574

Jordan Pieklik (Brian): *all seems to be well ... God is good! (due early May)* • H. L. & Heather Allen's daughter, Valeria Allen's granddaughter

Malcolm Wills: *cancer has decreased significantly!* • 2002 Elon Rd., Madison Heights, VA 24572

All: *whose lives and families are being affected by drug addiction*

HOMEBOUND • EXTENDED CARE • THERAPY • REHAB

Edward Allen: *at home* • Bettie Sue Jennings' brother; Valeria Allen's brother in law

Starke Camden: *at home* • 106 Village Park Ct. Lynchburg VA 24501

Eleanor Campbell: *Fairmont Crossing* • 173 Brockman Park Dr., Rm 122, Amherst, VA 24521

Shelby Campbell: *at home* • 703 Winesap Rd., Madison Heights VA 24572

Brenda Carroll: *therapy for blood cancer* • Mildred Riley's sister

Bonnie Johnson: *at her daughter's home* • c/o Kim Darrah, 906 N Shore Drive W, Sunset Beach NC 28468

Sally Johnson: *at home* • 367 Johns Creek Rd., Madison Heights VA 24572

Betty Loving: *at home* • 718 Cedar Gate Rd., Monroe VA 24574

Russell Riley: *symptoms of POEMS* • 368 Camden Dr., Madison Heights VA 24572

Dot Stinnette: *Forest Health & Rehab* • Vicky Harris' aunt. • 2406 Atherholt Rd., Lynchburg, VA 24501

Janet Thomas: *Westminster Canterbury, Rm 332* • 501 VES Rd., Lynchburg VA 24503

Andrea Tomlin: *oral chemotherapy for breast cancer* • Pam Turner's sister

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SESSION & BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2024

Eli Craft

David Harris

Class of 2025

Mary McAlister, Clerk

Tim Pague

Class of 2026

John Oblinger

Will Tyler

Hymn Lyrics

AMID THE THRONGING WORSHIPERS

Amid the thronging worshipers the living Lord I bless;
before my people, gathered here, God's name will I confess
Come, sing with all who fear the Lord, you children of God's grace
with reverence sound all glory forth and bow before God's face.

The burden of the sorrowful the Lord will not despise
God has not turned from those who mourn but listens to their cries
Such goodness makes me join the throng here saints this praise proclaim
and there will I fulfill my vows with those who fear God's name.

You feed with good the humble ones and satisfy the meek
and they shall live and praise you, Lord, who for your mercy seek.
The ends of all the earth take thought, the nations seek you, Lord.
They worship you, the Sovereign One, in earth and heaven adored.

Before you, Lord, the proud shall bow, the haughty with their trust.
They cannot keep themselves alive; they too return to dust.
But you, Lord, dwell beyond all time, deliverance to proclaim
to generations yet unborn who shall confess your name.

JESUS CALLS US O'ER THE TUMULT

Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me."

Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us--by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.