

**University Presbyterian Church
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Sunday, April 7, 2024

**The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor
Gregory White, Organist
Allan Andrews, Minister of Music & Choral Director**

Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>

Second Sunday of Easter, April 7, 2024
Service for the Lord's Day
10:30 a. m.

AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Thank you.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in "Prayers of the People," please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed. Ushers will take them from the plate and when the offering is brought forward, hand them to the pastor.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude Melodia, Op. 59 Max Reger

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand, if able*)

How very good and pleasant it is
when the people of God live in unity.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt,
may we, who have not seen, have
faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn #235

O Sons and Daughters, Let us Sing

trans. By John Mason Neale

Confession and Pardon

The Invitation:

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,
so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer:

**Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak,
and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

The Pardon:

Hear the good news of God's promise:
I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

Hymn #583

Glory to God

Jacques Berthier

Sharing the Peace and Greetings

As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ to one another saying, "the peace of Christ be with you".

Sung response Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Living God, with joy we celebrate
the presence of your risen Word.
Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit
so that we may proclaim the good news
of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35 (p. 122 of the NT in pew Bible)

Psalm 133

How good and how pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in unity!
**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the
beard, upon the beard of Aaron,
flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

**It is like the dew of Hermon
flowing down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing:
life forever more.**

Gracious God, you have poured into our hearts the precious
oil of your Spirit. Make of us one heart and one will,
that as members of the body of Christ, we may be united in the
bonds of love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-51 (p. 115 of the NT in pew Bible)

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem Let There Be Peace arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Sermon "The New Community"

Hymn #256 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real
 Thomas H. Troeger

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Voluntary Adagio Cesar Franck
 From: Choral No. 3 en la mineur

Doxology Hymn #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We offer our prayers through Christ,
who is risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns forever,
and prays for us in heaven.

Through Christ, we pray for the church . . .

Let us be people of joy, living witnesses
to the power of the resurrection
and the good news of your grace and peace.
Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for the earth. . . .
From the dust of the damaged earth,
raise up your new creation,
full of beauty, wonder, and glory.
Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for all nations
Let the message of your saving power
spread throughout the world:
that peace may replace the dominion of death.
Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for this community
Let the doors of this church be open wide
as we reach out in love and service
and welcome those in search of a home.
Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for loved ones
Give hope to those who wait for good news.
Turn their mourning into dancing,
and their sorrow into joy.
Living God, **hear our prayer.**

God of all power and glory, receive these prayers,
and continue your mighty work among us,
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. **Amen.**

Draw near to the Lord, who is good,
whose steadfast love endures forever.
Let us pray to the Lord, our Savior.
God of our salvation, **answer us with grace.**

**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.**

EUCCHARIST

The Invitation:

Christ our Lord is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

At your word the earth was made
and spun on its course among the planets.
Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth
and set us among all your creatures
to love and serve you.

When we were unfaithful to you
you kept faith with us.

When we were slaves in Egypt,
you broke the bonds of our oppression,
brought us through the sea to freedom,
and made covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire
you led us through the desert
to a land flowing with milk and honey,
and set before us the way of life.

You spoke of love and justice in the prophets,
and in the Word made flesh you lived among us,
manifesting your glory.

He died that we might live,

and is risen to raise us to new life.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

The Sanctus:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
whom you sent to save us.
He came with healing in his touch,
and was wounded for our sins.
He came with mercy in his voice,
and was mocked as one despised.
He came with peace in his heart,
and met with violence and death.
By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb,
and at his command the gates of hell were opened.
The one who was dead now lives.
The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation,
the Lamb upon the throne.
The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.
Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,
we take this bread and this wine
from the gifts you have given us,
and celebrate with joy
the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.
Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,

that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Memorial Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

Rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break
and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ
that we may be one with all who share this feast,
united in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Nourished at this table, O God,
may we know Christ's redemptive love
and live a new life in him.
Give us who are fed at his hand,
grace to share our bread with the hungry
and with the hungry of heart.
Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion:

Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us
you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.
Let us now go forth from this place,
fed at your table and filled by the Spirit,
to walk with you all the days of our lives,
and proclaim the glory of your resurrection
to all the world. **Amen.**

Hymn #236 The Strife is O'er trans. By Francis Pott

Benediction

Postude Toccata Eugene Butler

A-723910

Participating in Worship
The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor
Gregory White, Organist
Allan Andrews, Minister of Music & Choral Director
Jude Hammer, Liturgist
Live streamer: Chinomnso Awazie

This Week...

Sunday, April 7	9:30 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Interim Team Meeting
Monday, April 8	<i>Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday, April 9	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, April 11	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	7:30 pm	Choir
Saturday, April 13 Concert	2:00 pm	Syracuse University Choir
Sunday, April 14	9:30 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Liturgist Training

Welcome Visitors

University Presbyterian Church (UPC), the members and officers, welcomes you today. Your presence strengthens our faith and our commitment as Christ's disciples.

University Presbyterian Church welcomes all who seek to follow the Way of Jesus—the way of compassion and justice—regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identification. UPC does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in celebrating the rites of marriage.

University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff

The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty	Interim Pastor
Organist	Gregory White
Minister of Music & Choral Director	Allan Andrews
Treasurer	James W. Smyton
Clerk of Session	Pat Cookfair-Casseri
Financial Secretary	Barbara C. Lyons
Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator	Kathryn F. Hallborg
Administrative Assistant	Peg Kovach
Custodian	David Winiarski

Mission Statement of University Presbyterian Church

We are a hungry people who receive Christ, the Bread of Life, who sustains us on our journey. We strive to feed as we are fed, sharing the Bread to nourish others in body, mind and spirit.

“Let Us Be Bread”