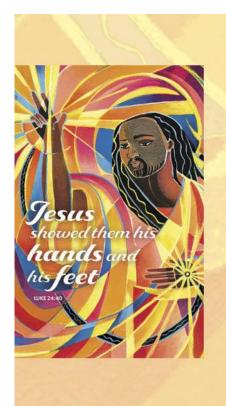
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET HANOVER, PA



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024

Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family Church Office: 717-637-5941 Email: <u>stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net</u> Website: <u>www.stpaulsyorkst.org</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst</u>

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- -Generously stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- -Serving as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- -*Providing* for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- -Growing in Faith through worship, study, and discernment
- -Praising God through music, word, and service
- -Welcoming all people into fellowship with God

Important Worship Notes

All liturgies are printed within this bulletin.

P: Pastor

C: Congregation

L: Lay Reader

A: Assisting Minister

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

+ 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER + April 14, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- P Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

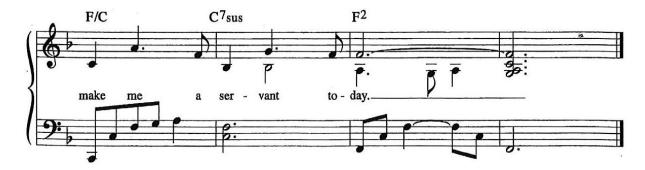
At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

***OPENING HYMN**

"Make Me a Servant"





*GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.



***HYMN OF PRAISE**



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

L The First Reading according to Acts 3:12-19 ¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 133

read responsively

- A ¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- C ²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound. ⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.

SECOND READING

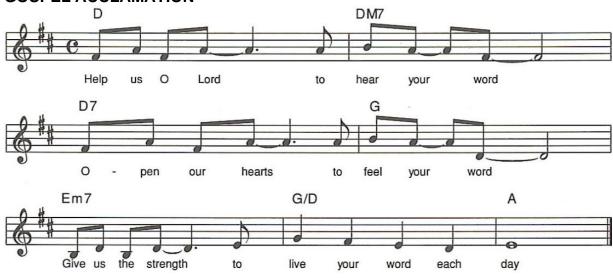
God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

L The Second Reading according to 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:36b-48

C Glory to you, O Lord.

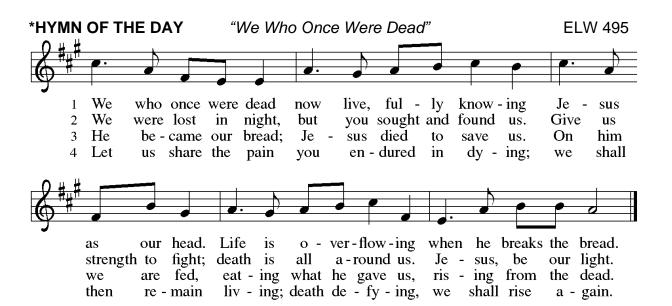
^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON





5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead. 6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

***NICENE CREED**

- A Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Nicene Creed.
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry (*ministry context may be named*). Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly is seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Ring Praise!" Handbell Choir Nathaniel Riley

2010 Agape Press (division of Hope Publishing Co)

(Use this time to reflect on your financial and spiritual offerings to God.)

There are a number of ways of making your offerings to God during this time. One is to place your offering in our offering plates in front of the pews or to give online at <u>https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give.</u> If you prefer not to give online, you may of course mail a check to St. Paul's. If you are not able to give monetarily during this time, know that your prayers and praise are a pleasing offering to God. If you are able to give a little more during this time, please consider doing so as a way of supporting your fellow disciples who are not able to.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

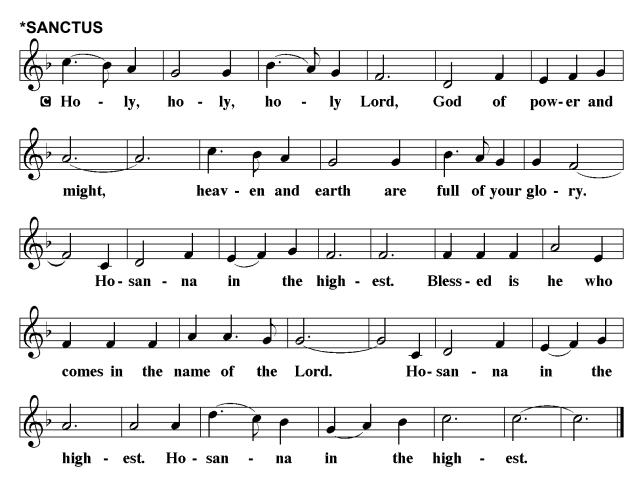
- A Let us pray, Risen One,
- C you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C 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.

*PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
- C 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

All are welcome to commune. If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

"Moving Meditation" Handbell Choir 2021 Gassy Meadow Music Jason Krug



"Rejoice and Celebrate"



***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

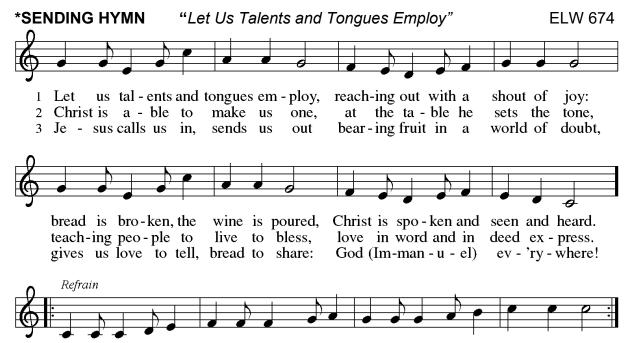
A Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

*BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always. Amen.



Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a - bound!

*DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*POSTLUDE

* Stand if you are able

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	April 14	April 21
Assisting Minister:	Frank Hueske	Russ Kaltreider
Acolyte:	Jocelyn Fissel	Leah Kaltreider
Lay Reader:	Frank Hueske	Christopher Johnson
Communion Distributors	Donna Lehman	Gary Martin
	Sally Lovelace	Nancy Martin
Ushers:	Suzanne Butler	Russ Johnson
	John Reitz	Christopher Johnson
Altar:	Ginny Murray	Ginny Murray
	Donna Lehman	Donna Lehman

APRIL DESIGNATED GIVING - WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME FOR GAZA - The United Nations World Food Programme has launched emergency operations to provide Gaza families with food assistance. More than 2 million people in Gaza urgently need food. 1 in 6 children under 2 are acutely malnourished. WFP is distributing fresh bread, canned food and ready-to-eat meals to those in shelters. \$75 can provide a family with food for an entire month; please give what you can. The WFP has received a 90% Four Star Rating from Charity Navigator. Make your check payable to St. Paul's with a footnote for WFP Gaza.

ONE VASE OF ALTAR FLOWERS is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of William J. Shaffer by Harry Dusman & grandchildren Gay, Holly, & Dan & their families.

ONE VASE OF ALTAR FLOWERS is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of Kitty Angel's 89th birthday on April 15th by the family.

THE COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of the April Birthdays of Kristie Miller, Lawson Miller & Ally Angel by Pam & Dave Miller.

THE ETERNAL FLAME is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of the April Birthday of Megan Angel by Pam & Dave Miller.

GATHERING GROUP meets TODAY following worship. Bring \$5 for lunch!

SOMETHING'S BREWING BIBLE STUDY will continue to follow Max Lucado as he delves into the Gospel of John. Join us in the Lounge, Mon. evenings at 7:00pm.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at <u>finance@stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Radio–April 21 & 28 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date) Altar Flowers-April 28 (2 vases at \$20 each) Communion Bread and Wine-April 21 & 28 (\$12 each date) Worship Bulletins-April 21 & 28 (\$20 each date) Eternal Flame-April 21 & 28 (\$10 each date) JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY - The Gospel of Mark, A beginner's guide to the Good News - Instructor, Linda Zellers - TUESDAYS at 10:00 am in the Theater room on the 2nd floor.

CONGREGATION CONVERSATIONS WITH PASTOR KATRINA - Please join us following worship today, and on Sunday, April 28 as we continue our Congregation Conversation with Pastor Katrina in the fellowship hall. Your input is extremely important during this time in our congregation's faith journey. As we look toward our next chapter of ministry, we are reflecting, sharing and exploring our identity and purpose as a congregation. Reflecting on where we have been and where God may lead us in the future will lead to the best fit in our upcoming call.

COFFEE HOUR will be held in Fellowship Hall today and on April 28 and in the church lounge on Sunday, April 21 and immediately following the 9:30 Worship Service. Join us for a time of fellowship.

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE STUDY will be held following worship on April 21. Grab some coffee and snacks in the lounge and join us **in the nursery, across from the lounge**, to dive a little deeper into the day's Bible readings. We should finish up by 11:30. We hope to see you there!

FAITH FORMATION UPDATE: our children have been learning about the Lord's Prayer for the month of March. We've been learning how to pray it in American Sign Language and look forward to sharing what we've learned with the congregation at an upcoming worship service!

JESUS SENT 72 disciples into the world to tell the good news. Check out our 72 ENVELOPES campaign for our youth attending the Gathering in New Orleans. Consider donating a number amount that speaks to you. See the Youth and Family bulletin board for more information!

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE IS HAVING A SPRING CLEAN UP EVENT on Sat., May 4th, from 9am till noonish. We will be doing gardening and cleaning up around the outside of the church building. Please join us as "many hands make light work". **ALSO,** any help with mowing at St. Paul's over the summer months would be welcomed.

You can use the church's equipment or bring your own. Please contact the church office if you are willing to help with mowing.

GET READY, GET SET, REGISTER FOR CAMP! Council has approved camperships for any St. Paul's members and any person(s) sponsored by a member for this summer at any Lutheran Camping Corporation Camp! Registration for summer camp is now open for Nawakwa, Kirkenwald, Wittel Farm and Mar-Lu-Ridge. Check out the summer schedules here: <u>https://www.lutherancamping.org/ and https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/</u> For more information see Laura Silver, our CampPerson.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, April 28th, immediately following the Worship Service.

HAVE A FEW ITEMS TO SELL but not enough to buy a table for our Yard Sale? See Cindy Schmidt or call the church office to donate the item! Items should be donated by **April 22**.

YARD SALE PLANNED FOR APRIL 27! - Have some spring cleaning to do? Have some items you'd like to sell? Do you like to "yard sale"? Our youth are planning a Yard Sale here at St. Paul's for **April 27** to benefit the 2024 Gathering in New Orleans.

What's the scoop? Vendors will be open beginning at 8:00 am and until 1:00pm. There will be concessions (including our delicious pretzel sandwiches!) available as well. Come see what's available! **Sellers:** Reserve a space (\$15) by April 13. Your reservation includes one "long" table at your spot. See Michelle Johnson or a member of the Johnson family or call the church office for more information and to register.

SUN., APRIL 14 8:30 am 9:30 am Immediately following 10:30 am 10:30 am 10:45 am	Worship Service – 3rd Sunday of Easter Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall Faith Formation – 2 nd floor Gathering Group meeting – Youth Room	
MON., APRIL 15 6:30 pm 7:00 pm		
TUES., APRIL 16 10:00 am 1:00 pm	1 2	
THUR., APRIL 18 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Cub Scout Pack 102–Fellowship Room Boy Scouts Troop 102–Youth Room & gym	
FRI., APRIL 19 3:30 pm	Grocery Ministry prep	
SAT., APRIL 20 9:00 am 5:00 pm		
SUN., APRIL 21 8:30 am 9:00 am 9:30 am	Heritage Choir rehearsal - lounge Worship Service – 4 th Sunday of Easter	
Immediately following	Coffee Hour in the lounge	
10:30 am		
10:30 am	Daily Disciple class – nursery room	