



Rev. Caitlin Culp, **Pastor**
Kent Hamaker, **Director of Christian Formation and Outreach**
Melissa McMahan, **Music Director**

Church of the Covenant
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703-524-4115
Email: thechurchofthecovenant@gmail.com

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 12, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

(* You're invited to stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision arr. Lisa Shoemaker

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Caitlin Culp

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Hear the good news! The Lord is alive!

All: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

One: The risen Lord calls us to new life.

All: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

One: We spring alive in joy to worship our Lord God.

All: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

***OPENING HYMN #246**

Christ Is Alive!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Risen Lord, while we proclaim your victory over sin and death, we confess the heavy sins we carry. We sing, "Alleluia," but we have abandoned you and one another. We shout, "He is risen," but we fail to love like you love us. Forgive us. Loosen our reliance on violent patterns and free us for joyful belonging, that the story of your resurrection might bring us to life. Turn our hearts and hands to your work of justice, joy, and stubborn hope...*silent prayer.*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: May the love and peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

ANTHEM

There Is a Balm in Gilead arr. Wendy Stevens

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 16

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Caitlin Culp

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-31

*HYMN #302

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

from the Book of Common Worship

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Prayer requests are listed in the bulletin. You’re invited to share prayer requests aloud.

EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY #607

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #664

Morning Has Broken

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I Come With Joy arr. Dorothy Frisch

*Thank you for sharing in this time of worship with us. Thanks to today’s Usher and to the liturgist, Lourdes Gonzalez. **Please join us for the Annual Congregational Meeting & Luncheon, hosted by the Congregational Care & Membership Team, immediately following worship.** The worship service is recorded and available on YouTube and the church’s website.*

One Great Hour of Sharing special offering contributions will be collected today. Please use the envelope provided with the bulletin.

Large print hymn books, individual seat cushions, and children’s activity packets are available from the usher at the entrance. Children of all ages are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for all parts of the worship service. There is also childcare available in the room off the front of the sanctuary.

Bathrooms are located outside of the sanctuary to the right, through the narthex, and up the small set of stairs in the foyer. A diaper changing station is in the “Teen Lounge,” which is past the bathrooms, through the double doors, on the left past the library. An ADA-accessible bathroom is located in the fellowship hall. To access the fellowship hall, drive around to the parking lot and enter through the double doors.

PRAYER LIST

Almighty God, we pray for our world and our church.

Pete, mother-in-law of Robert, who's close with Mary and Gloria, as he faces declining health and his family and friends who are caring for him.

Gregory, son of Sherry, who continues to face Parkinson's, and his family who cares for him.

Prayers for **peace in the Middle East**; for **cessation of hostilities between Israel, Iran, & USA**.

Lola

Othow and his ministry in South Sudan.

**If you have prayer requests you'd like added to this list, email covenantpastorpcusa@gmail.com. Prayers remain on this list for two weeks unless we hear otherwise.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Worship & Christian Formation**
Team Mtg - April 7th, 7:30pm,
Zoom
- **Mission & Outreach Team Mtg** -
April 13th, 7:30pm, Zoom
- Rev. Culp is out of office from April
14th-19th for a preaching cohort
retreat. Call 937-570-8218 with
urgent pastoral care needs.
- To receive church emails, email
covenantpastorpcusa@gmail.com
- Printed copies of the 2026 Church
Directory are available on the table
in the foyer. The directory was also
emailed to you.
- **Spring Alive! Festival** - Saturday,
April 25th, 2pm-4pm, *Covenant
parking lot*
 - Visit with local organizations,
including watching live
painting demos
 - Eat popcorn, snocones, &
Indonesian food
 - Jump in the bouncehouse,
make arts & crafts, blow
bubbles
 - Connect with the community



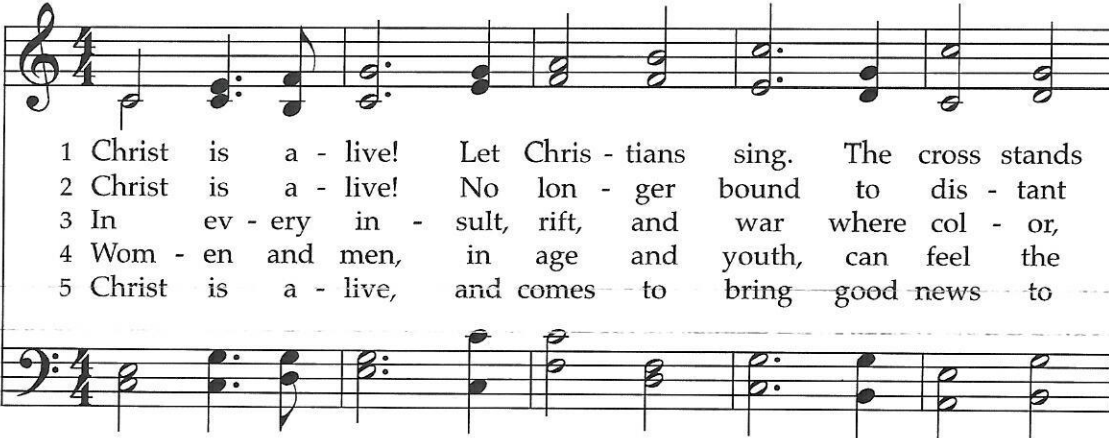
WEEKLY HAPPENINGS
MMQB Men's Group, Mondays, 10am
Bible Study, Tuesdays, 10am, Zoom
Choir Rehearsal, Wednesdays, 11:30am, Fellowship Hall
Devotional Time, Thursdays, 12pm, Zoom
Godly Play, Sundays, 10am, Godly Play Room
Choir Rehearsal, Sundays 9:45am, Sanctuary
Worship, Sundays, 11am, Sanctuary, Zoom



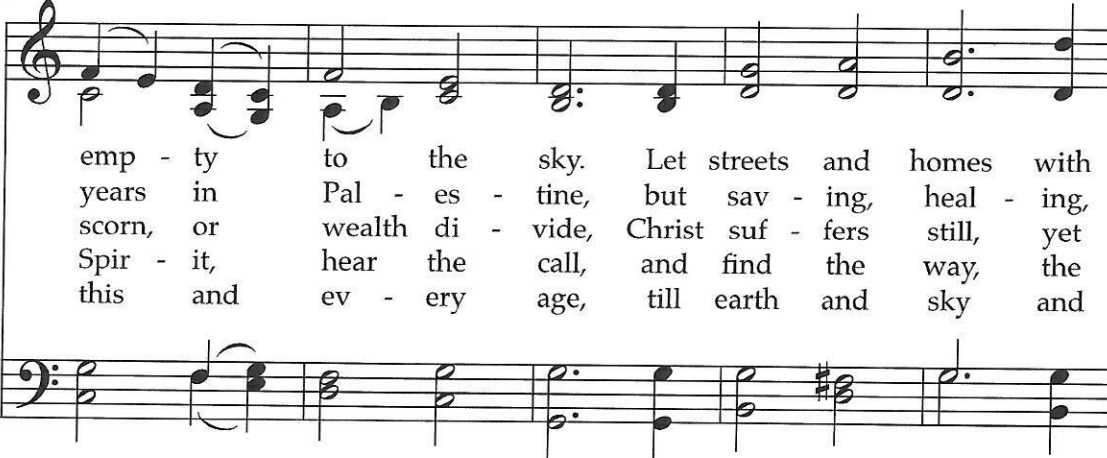
- **Morning Walk** -
Saturday, April 26th, 8:30am-9:00am,
Potomac Overlook Regional Park

Christ Is Alive!

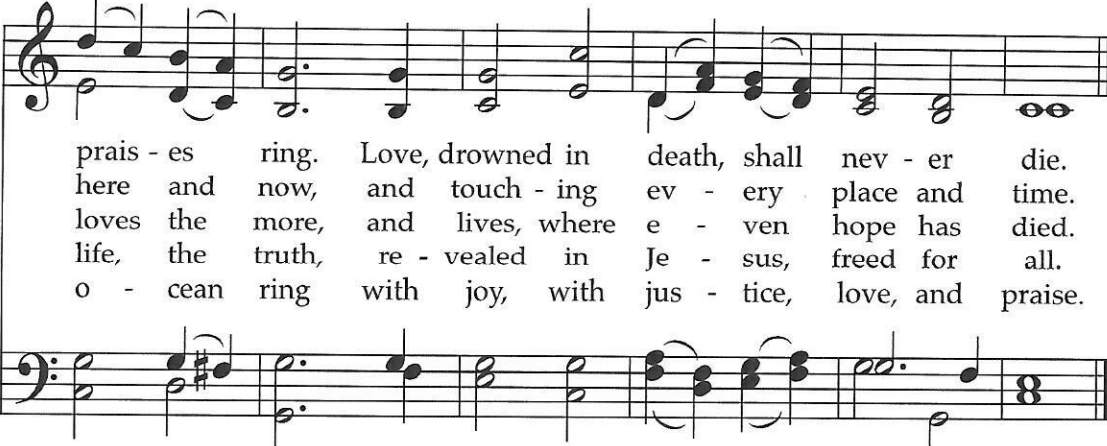
246



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



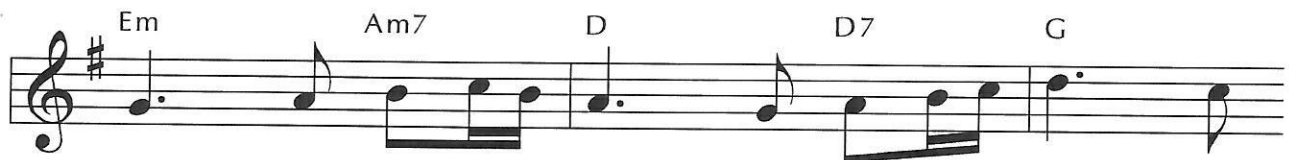
prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

When Hands Reach Out and 302 Fingers Trace



1 When hands reach out and fin - gers trace the beau - ty
 2 When fin - gers spell and signs ex - press our prayer and
 3 When bro - ken bod - ies will not mend, we thank you,
 4 And when the ways we learn and grow are not the
 5 Your Spir - it gives us dif - fer - ing ways to serve you



of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that
 praise and thank - ful - ness, we thank you, God, that
 God, for Christ our friend. In him, our heal - ing
 ways that oth - ers know, we thank you, God, that
 well and of - fer praise. When all are joined as



love re - lies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
 hands can sing; you bless the si - lent songs we bring.
 can be - gin: he wel - comes all the wound - ed in.
 we have learned your love's a gift, and nev - er earned.
 one, we'll be your a - ble, strong com - mu - ni - ty.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This hymn celebrates the breadth of human diversity and the variety of gifts and abilities through which God's people serve the church and world. Incorporating such diversity provides a vital witness to the hospitality of Christian community and to the inclusive nature of love.

Morning Has Broken

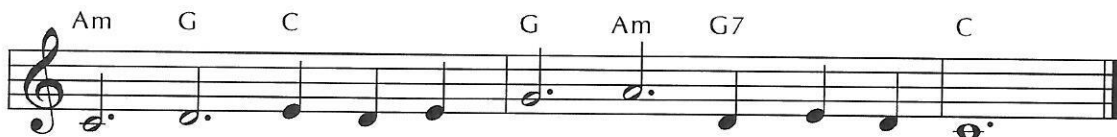
664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.