

# The 2nd Sunday of Easter

April 12th, 2026 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist



# WELCOME



*(\*) Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

\*Opening Litany (from "Ministry Matters" website)

P: Must we see you in order to believe you, Lord? Is seeing truly believing?

C: **Are we to be prisoners of our senses, distrusting and rejecting whatever we cannot see, touch, or hear?**

P: Yet You are faithful — You give sight to the blind, You carry us when we are weary, You call us to your side.

C: **The locked room of our hearts opens at the turn of your key.**

P: Speak your words of life to us again: "Do not doubt, only believe."

C: **Speak your words of life, that we might live.**

P: We see the presence of Christ reflected in each other's faces.

C: **Happy are those who have not seen, yet have come to believe!**

\*Opening Hymn #367

"Now All the Vault ..."

\*The Greeting and Prayer of the Day

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and

P: the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. ~ 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 in You and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### The First Reading ~ Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to His death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this

day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' <sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Word of God, word of life.      **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16 (read responsively, lector then congregation)

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

<sup>2</sup> **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup> **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

<sup>5</sup> O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup> **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup> I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup> **I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

<sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup> **For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

The Second Reading ~ 1 Peter 1: 3-9

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.      **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**

Al - le - lu - ia.      Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life.      Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*The Holy Gospel ~ John 20: 19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to His disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

The Holy Gospel according to the 20th chapter of St. John.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, “Peace be

with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.      **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

\*Hymn #635

“We Walk By Faith”

\*The Apostles’ Creed (professed by all)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living 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.**

### The Prayers of Intercession

*After each prayer petition, please respond:*

Merciful God ...      **Receive our prayer.**

Anthem

“Hymn of Promise”

Blessing of the Elements



The Lord's Prayer

### + Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

*This morning, the sacrament will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer in the cup, then hand it to each communicant so they may place it in their own mouth. Young children who do not yet received the sacrament are most welcome to come forward for a blessing and cracker.*

### Post-Communion Blessing and Benediction

P: May the blessing of the risen Lord, the love of God that never lets us go, and the power of the Holy Spirit that gives us new life, be with you always. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn #380

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives”

\*Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the risen Christ!

**Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Music



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Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.*

*thank  
you*

... to Alicia Baird for serving as our lector this morning

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech



**Remember in prayer ...** Ronald Black, Caitlin Carfagno, Ramone DeLeon, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Timothy Filler, Hope Geary, Harlan, Jeanne Logan, Barb Shaneberger, Tyler and Elizabeth, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, Brad and Monica Wagner, Leon Warmkessel, people living in war-torn countries, victims of oppression, injustice, violence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones whom we name before God. †

*Today's altar flowers have been sponsored by  
Bill Heins in loving memory of his twin  
brother, Bob. ♥*

*Last Sunday's flowers were sponsored by Ron  
and Rita Koza in loving memory of sister,  
Jane Keifer. ♥*



## **\*Drive-Thru Pulled Pork Dinner\***

**Sat., April 25th ~ 4pm-6pm    Cost \$15/per meal**

Pulled pork, mac & cheese, coleslaw, roll, & cookie

Pre-orders are encouraged using the "contact us" section of  
the church website: [www.friedenscentervalley.com](http://www.friedenscentervalley.com)

## 367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



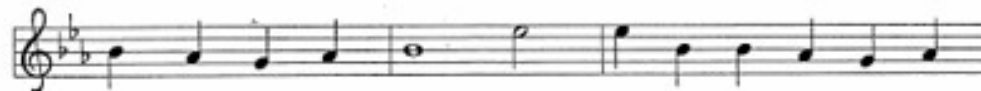
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



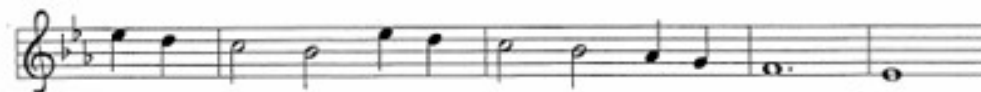
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



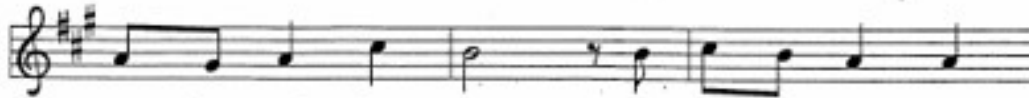
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## 635

## We Walk by Faith



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

380

## Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
 2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?  
 3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, Life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
 4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.

From the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
 He who died our broth - er here Lives our broth - er still on high,  
 Joined to him, your liv - ing head, Where he is, you shall be too;  
 Praise him in a no - bler song, Cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.

Bright fore - run - ner to the skies Of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
 Lives for - ev - er to be - stow Bless - ings on his Church be - low.  
 With the Lord, at his right hand, As a vic - tor you shall stand.  
 Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway Sin and death and hell o - bey.

- 5 Hallelujah! Angels, sing!  
 Join with us in hymns of praise.  
 Let your chorus swell the strain  
 Which our feebler voices raise:  
 Glory to our God above