



Easter Worship in the Grove 6:30am, 8am and 10:30am

GUESTS, Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs. If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, pastorkris@unionucc.org

NEW MEMBERS: For more information email Pastor Kris. pastorkris@unionucc.org or call the church office to speak to her.

We believe in extravagant welcome. We believe in God's inclusive love. We start worship with a greeting that reflects that welcome and love.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and faith's journey
You are welcome here.

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Directions:

Thank you for wearing a mask throughout the service and for practicing 6 feet of social distancing.

As you arrive, please visit the welcome tables to:

1. Sign In – we will verify your name and phone number.
2. Get a paper bulletin of the service or you can view it on your phone at :



3. Share your offerings.
4. Pick up Communion. (All packs are Juice and Gluten Free)

FM Radio Station—tune to 102.3 FM

HOLY COMMUNION DIRECTIONS

Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.

At Church/Grove: Each bag has a pre-sealed cup of grape juice and wafer for 1 person. A gluten free option is available. Wait to eat and drink until that time in the worship service. You will not be served in your seats.

At Home: Since we are worshipping virtually we invite you to take communion virtually. Please find a cracker, piece of bread or something to represent the body of Christ. And please find some juice, wine or water to represent the blood of Christ. When we get to that part of the service, the pastors will bless the elements and bless us as we share in this meal together.

“For All Peoples a Feast:
Dare to Dance Again!”

Easter Worship in the Grove
6:30am, 8am and 10:30am

*“Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.”*
— *Psalm 30:5b*

As Easter people, we are called to dance our dances of freedom for all the world to see—even and perhaps especially in times of great difficulty. Dances of hope. Dances of justice. Dances of love. During this season, post-resurrection stories point to the joy of living in the beloved community and extending that fellowship through our witness as we dare to dance again!

PRELUDE

The Easter Song

Anne Herring

WELCOME

GATHERING OUR STRENGTH

Threshold

A Story for the Ages

Scripture John 20: 1-18

Lay Readers

6:30 Susan Steinmann

8:00 Carol Pope

10:30 Elena Steidinger

Lay Reader: Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Liberating Easter Word of God for all the people of God!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

HYMN Christ the Lord Is Risen Today Charles Wesley
Easter Hymn
#233 New Century Hymnal (Black Hymnal)

**1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!**

**2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**3. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

Greeting

Leader: Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed!

Prayer

Leader: Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation!

You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing in our hearts and in this world.

Come and dance with us, dazzle us with your brilliance, move us to wakefulness –

so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ.

Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

Affirming the Peace Among Us

The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

And also with you!

You are invited to turn to the people around you and wave to each other as a sign of graceful greetings this day.

SUNG (SOLO):

Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!

**ALL: Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!**

Leader: Happy Easter! We are so glad that you are with us. Indeed it is a time of mixed emotions as we dare to hope in the strides we have taken to be restored from this pandemic. But the celebration can be somewhat dampened by all that we have been through in the last year. Our Gospel story tells us that bad news seemed to have been raining down on the disciples as they watched their Beloved Teacher succumb to death on a cross. We've had our share of bad news as well. As Easter people, we know the rest of the story. "The sun's in my heart..." sang Gene Kelly as he danced in the rain. Our colorful umbrellas today and for the next weeks will remind us that we are called to dance our dances of freedom for all the world to see—even and perhaps especially in times of great difficulty. During this season, we will dare to dance again! Dances of hope. Dances of justice. Dances of love. You are beginning to catch on to our theme song! Let's sing it once more.

SUNG (ALL)

**Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!**

MUSIC OFFERING

Here is Our King

David Crowder

Kids Choir: Lucas Bastidas, Brooklyn Hoppes, Lincoln Hoppes, Connor Maxwell, Lucas Maxwell, Raegan Minnich, Cael Vermuelen, Hunter Vermuelen
Directors: Judy Stubbmann and Blake Hoppes

LEARNING THE STEPS

8 and 10:30 Worship A Story for All Ages

(Children's Time with Mrs. Puia)

During the last song children are invited to choose 1 egg from the butterfly garden near the gazebo. Happy Easter!

MUSIC OFFERING

He Lives

Instrumentalists: Justin Bower, Andy Hill, Garet Hill, Mitchell Roth

Director: Mitchell Roth

EASTER MESSAGE

Jerusalem Dance Challenge

Have you heard of the Jerusalem dance craze? This is an online line dance that has inspired participation all over the world within the last year. Search on YouTube for the Jerusalem Dance Challenge or on social media with #JerusalemDance to see tons of videos of people doing this catchy dance.

The song "Jerusalem," written by South African artist Master KG says, "Jerusalem is my home, go with me, protect me. See the story of it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYhm6PCUtSg>

The idea of going together to the heavenly city, the "kingdom" (or the "kin-dom") has deep roots in our tradition. It is a vision of hope, of justice, of love.

Here's the whole story:

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/sep/24/jerusalem-dance-craze-brings-hope-from-africa-to-the-world-amid-covid>

Here's a video to teach you the dance. If you learn it, be sure to send us a video!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6efHtpJK-Ns>

Offering Our Resources and our Energy

Leader: Our dance with God needs fuel and energy. If we are to dance the dance of justice, find the steps of service, invite others to dance with us, we must have the resources that will assure that we have the tunes and the teachers to continue this holy dance. Won't you give now so that the dance of God can be full and free in this place?

Outside Worship Offering – we will not be collecting your offerings during the service. Please plan to share them at the welcome table as you arrive or as you leave worship. Thank you for being the church with us!

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

Easter Mission: Lehigh Conference of Church and the Parkland Cares Food Pantry

Check donations may be made through the "Easter Mission" envelope in your envelope pack or in any envelope marked Easter Mission. Checks to "Union UCC" and mail them to church. Give online at <http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/> for Easter Mission.

OFFERING ENVELOPES you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

ELECTRONIC GIVING This is a great time to try e-giving! Choose a weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office. financialmanager@unionucc.org

DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card

Go to <http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/> and click **GIVE ONLINE**.

AMAZON SMILE Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop at Amazon. <https://smile.amazon.com>.

MUSIC OFFERING

I Will Rise Chris Tomlin Arr. Lloyd Larson

**High School Choir: Emily Bachl, Naomi Henniger,
Amanda Lane, Olivia Rice**

Director: Blake Hoppes

Prayers and Invitation to the Feast

Teach Me To Dance Chuck Bell (v. 2 G. Shepherd)

Sung (ALL):

**Teach me to dance to the beat of your heart,
teach me to move in the power of your Spirit,
teach me to [move] in the light of your presence,
teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.**

L Will you open yourselves to the grace of Jesus Christ that is always and already available here at this table? If so, say, "Open us to your grace, Lord."

All: "Open us to your grace, Lord."

Will you open yourselves once again to the call of Jesus Christ?

If so, say, "Open us to your call, Lord."

"Open us to your call, Lord."

Will you open yourselves to the possibility of transformation through Jesus Christ?

If so, say, "Transform us, O Lord."

"Transform us, O Lord."

As we prepare to attend the heavenly feast, we especially pray for those who have no earthly tables, or no place at a table, and so little daily bread

We confess this day that we have been slow to join the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all.
In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession...

L Hear this good news!

God has loved you from the very beginning.
The invitation of Christ is never-ending
because resurrection can happen at any moment.
The Holy Spirit is transforming you even now!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Amen!

Sung (ALL):

**Teach me to pray in the power of Easter,
following Christ in a life resurrected,
teach me to act with compassion and justice,
teach me to dance with the beat of your heart.**

The Great Thanksgiving

L Jesus is with us!

ALL: With us now and forever!

L So lift up your hearts and voices!

ALL: We lift them up to God!

L Let's join in thanks and praise!

ALL: How right it is to do this together!

Holy Living One,
You transformed a whole lot of nothing into this amazing
creation. You breathed life all around and called it good.
You invited us to the wonder of it all and when we could not
face you, you turned us around.
You keep bringing us around and around, time and again,
offering the chance to join the freedom-dance.

And so we join with the glorious chorus of saints past and
present, singing a never-ending hymn of praise:

ALL: (Spoken)
Holy, Holy, Holy!
God of power and might,
everywhere we see your glory!
Blessed are they who come in your name.
Hosanna in the Highest!
Alleluia! May it be so!

Indeed, you are holy!
And blessed is your son Jesus,
Anointed One, Liberator,
Dance Partner, Sibling, Friend.

Jesus sat at tables with those who had no place
and offered fulfilling food for bodies and souls.
And on the night when he would give all love for us,
he sat at the table with extended family—
just as he hosts this table here and now
with this extended family.

He offered the usual prayers of thanks to you, God,
over bread and cup, and then disrupted the gathering
with uncustomary words:

“Take and eat this bread—it is my body given for you.
Whenever you gather around the table together,
remember me.”

“Take and drink from this cup, each and every one—it is the
sign of a new covenant, (for business-as-usual is over and
done and the resurrection dance goes on).

This love is poured out for all people.
Whenever you gather around the table together,
remember me.”

And so, my friends, we remember. And we believe:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ will come again!

Pour out your Spirit upon us now!
Pour out your transforming presence
on the gifts of this body
and the gifts of this bread and fruit of the vine.
May they be for us your life and love,
uniting us as one body—Christ's body—
for the sake of loving the world. Amen.

Prayer of Jesus (Unison)

**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.**

Communion

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Take and eat, take and drink.

Music Offering

Risen Indeed!

Allen Pote

**Adult Choir: Ashleigh Albert, Fawn Albert, Todd Bachl,
Lucy Boyer, Ronda Gerry, Susan Glosan,
Jason Klinger, Karl Klinger, Carol Pope, Julie Wehr
Director: Blake Hoppes**

Leader: The table extends beyond this physical space
and into the space of the Spirit that unites us.
May this meal ready us to
love, trust, hope, and dance
to the beat of God's heart.

Sung (ALL):

**Teach me to love with your heart of compassion,
teach me to trust in the word of your promise,
teach me to hope in the day of your coming,
teach me to dance to the beat of your heart.**

Benediction

Leader: I want to thank you for being with us on this day. I invite you to come back next week because Easter is not just a day, it is a season—a “week of weeks”—meaning that we will be daring to dance for the next few weeks.

As a Benediction I want to share these words that we will hear more of next week as we are inspired by the song lyrics from singer Lee Ann Womack:

“Promise me that you'll give faith a fighting chance,
And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance...
I hope you dance!”

And may the Loving God, Risen Christ,
and Dancing Spirit fill you with all you need
for the days ahead.

And all God's people said,
“Amen!”

STEPPING OUT

At 8 & 10:30– Children may choose 1 egg from the butterfly garden near the gazebo. Happy Easter!

HYMN Jesus Christ Is Risen Today Davidica, Llanfair
240 New Century Hymnal (Black Hymnal)

**1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

**2. To the tomb the women bring, Alleluia!
Spices rich, and offering, Alleluia!
Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia!
Savior come to set us free, Alleluia!**

**3. There the angel clothed in white, Alleluia!
Tells the news with great delight, Alleluia!
Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia!
That the Sovereign glorious lives, Alleluia!**

**4. Christ appears in full array, Alleluia!
Sing with joy this Paschal day, Alleluia!
Christ now from the dead is raised, Alleluia!
Holy Trinity be praised, Alleluia!**

Postlude

He Lives

Alfred Henry Ackley

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www.worshipdesignstudio.com

**Thank you to Claire Kern and Deb Topp for helping the
pastors decorate the sanctuary and the grove for Lent
and Easter.**

**Thank you Consistory members and ushers for your
hospitality in hosting worship this week.**

**Sound Team
6:30 Mike Baer
8:00 Mike Baer, Pat Sorg
10:30 Karl Klinger, Pat Sorg**



Easter Flower Sponsors



In memory of:



Darlene & Dennis Kreitz

Parents

Glenn & Susan Mattern

Loved ones

Carolyn Barry

Ruth & Edwin Richter, Kathy Garmley

Diana Christ

Mary Christ

Cliff & Carol James

Parents and brothers

Ann Peters

Ruby & Donald Peters, Eleanor &

Norman Peters, Iva Kem

Gladys Kuhns

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Rich, Deb, Taylor, & Jonathan

Dad, Jack Liscka

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Easter Flower Sponsors



Darlene & Dennis Kreitz

Carolyn Barry

Lisa, Adam, Lori, Tiffany,
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Cliff & Carol James

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Jim & Edie Fella

Ronald & Carol Pope

Tom & Linda Anderson

Bonnie Herzog

Rich, Deana, & Ryan Correll

Eleana Belletieri

Charles & Carol Mesics

Sheila, Scott Nagle & Family

In honor of:

Grandchildren and Great-
grandchildren

Nancy and Albert Schmidt, Dawn,
Jennifer, Julene & Raymond, my
grandchildren

Richard W. Blose

Grandchildren— Ethan, Clay, Carolyn,
& Alexa

Michele Motter & Tracy Snyder

Grandson, Johnny Gaesa

Our loved ones

Grandchildren

Veronica Fabian

Zachary Long

Thank you flower sponsors!
Please pick up your flowers after
worship or call the office to pick up
during the week.

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$7,107
Calendar 2021 (Feb)	\$30,541
Calendar 2020 (Feb)	\$35,077
Change from Last Year	-12.9%
Budget (July-Feb.)	\$270,560
Actual (July-Feb.)	\$244,882
Giving vs. Budget	-9.5%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

2021 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	145lbs, \$45
Total YTD:	2,221lbs, \$172

Easter Mission
\$1,566.20

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS SPONSORS:

Happy Spring! Happy Easter! From Pastors Kris & Kayli

Your support is especially important now as we work to provide spiritual care and connection for members and the community through Facebook posts, ads, and online worship.

Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News.

Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.