



Church of the Apostles UCC

2nd Sunday of Easter – April 27, 2025
10 AM In-Person & Online Worship

Welcome!

“No matter where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!” More than words, we are all here because of God’s love, grace, and mercy. This is a community united by the honesty of our shared brokenness and the healing we receive through Christ.

Get Connected: Use a Welcome Card to share your presence and prayer requests with us. To get more connected, signup online for the “Weekly Announcements” and “Crown Newsletter,” like us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram, give us a call, or send an email. It is our joy to know you!

Children: There are toys and activity bags for children in the Children’s Corner for use as children are always welcome to remain in worship. Our Faith Formation class for children ages 3–2nd grade will be meeting in Rm 306 following the Children’s Time in worship. Our “Rooted” class for youth in grades 3rd–9th meet in Rm 310 beginning at 9:55 am.

Connection Cards: We ask that all worshippers complete a “Connection Card” located in the pew rack near you. This allows us to know who was with us. They can also be

used to give prayer requests or suggestions. These may be placed in the offering plates which will be passed following the sermon.

First-Time Guests: After worship, please visit our Welcome Center, where a congregation member will be available to answer your questions and provide a packet of information about our church. This is also where you'll receive a connection card to fill out, helping us stay connected with you!

Offerings: Any physical offerings you have brought can be placed in the offering plates which we will pass following the sermon. Electronic gifts may be given through the QR code on the bulletin or the one on a slip in the pew rack. Or Text 'COA' to 73256 with the amount you want to give.

Restrooms: Are available in the hallway to your left when you exit the sanctuary.

Electronic Devices: Remember to silence your device during worship. Wi-Fi is provided through "VisitorWifi." No password is needed.

You are a blessing: Let us know how we might better partner with you in this journey of faith and life. If you have thoughts, recommendations, or simply would like to join in prayer, we would love to hear from you!

Selected Scripture Readings

Acts 5:27-32 & John 20:19-31

Worship Leaders

Minister – All Members
Preacher – Rev. Kathryn Kuhn
Reader – Jim Eaton
Ushers – Randy & Luane Morrison,
John & Karen Wallach,
and George Alspach
Greeter – Barbara & Mark Achtermann
Director of Music – Lars Potteiger

Special Music – Dorothy Lippart
& Ray-Michael Kauffman
Drums – Nathan Moore
Bass – Charli Schultz
Vocals – Johanna & Jan Baker,
Streaming – Jaben Jury
Sound – Chris Braun
Projection – Bill Stock

Flower & Bulletin Sponsorship

Church of the Apostles, 1850 Marietta Ave, Lancaster PA 17603
717-392-5718 + office@apostlesucc.org + www.apostlesucc.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Kathryn Kuhn – kathrynk@apostlesucc.org x8201

Order of Worship

We Gather in Your Presence Welcome

Gathering Music: *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"* – arr. Olstad

We Take the Cup of Freedom to Sing

Cynthia Cummins
Arr. Chris Walker

Refrain

I will take the cup of free - dom and call on the name of God. I will

5
take the cup of free - dom and call on the name of God.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The second staff starts with a '5' above the first measure, indicating a continuation or a specific fingering. It also contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'I will take the cup of free - dom and call on the name of God. I will take the cup of free - dom and call on the name of God.'

Prayer

All: God of Freedom, our spirits sing because you have vanquished death.
Open our mouths to sing your praise so that all may know freedom in you.
We come to you in this moment, cups running over with thanksgiving.
Amen!

(Please rise in body and/or spirit)

Song: "My Life Flows On" (Chalice #619)

1. My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring-ing.
3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, containing a bass line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '1. My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion. 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring-ing. 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth. 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!'

I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

(Please be seated)

Prayer of Confession

All: Loving God, we know that we haven't always made you a priority in our lives. We know we haven't always shown the world your love or lived by the example of your son, who gave us the freedom to sing. We acknowledge those times before you right now and turn to you for help to appreciate this life and return to your ways.

(Time of reflection)

Leader: The stone is rolled away – we are released!
The tomb is empty – we can be free!
Christ is risen – life can be full!
And all God's people say, **"Amen."**

Special Music: *"There Is Power In the Blood"* - arr. Olstad

We Listen for Your Word

Children's Time

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32 (Pew Bible, NT p.123)

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31 (Pew Bible, NT p.115)

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

A “Freedom to Sing” Witness – Dorothea Lippart

Contemporary Words: “The Freedom to Sing”

We Respond to Your Word

Generosity Moment

Special Music: *“It Is Well with My Soul”* – arr. Fritchie

Prayers of the Community & Lord's Prayer

(Believing in God's truth, we open ourselves as God's servants through prayer.)

“God of Freedom, God of Justice” Tune: PICARDY

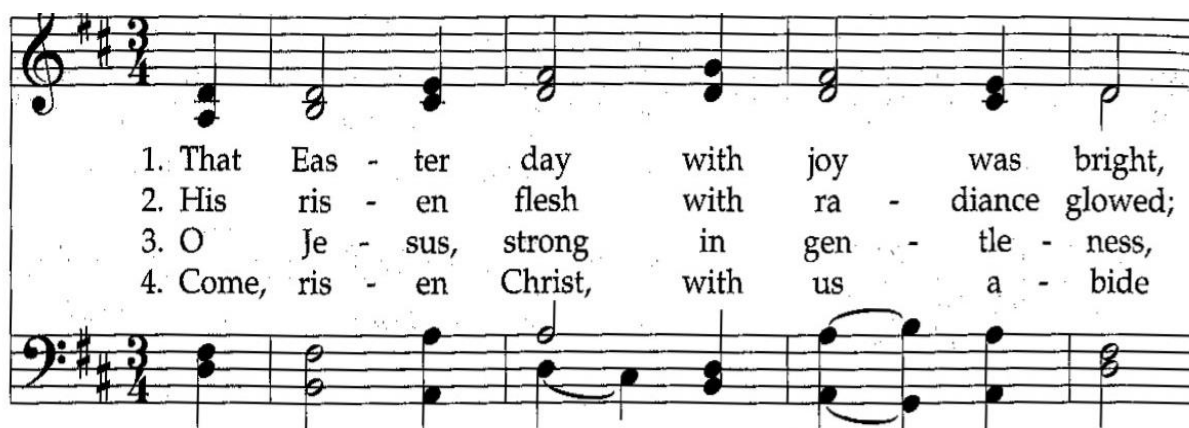
**God of freedom, God of justice,
You whose love is strong as death,
You who saw the dark of prison,
You who knew the price of faith—
Touch our world of sad oppression
With Your Spirit's healing breath.**

All: 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 as we forgive others. And let us not fall into temp-
tation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

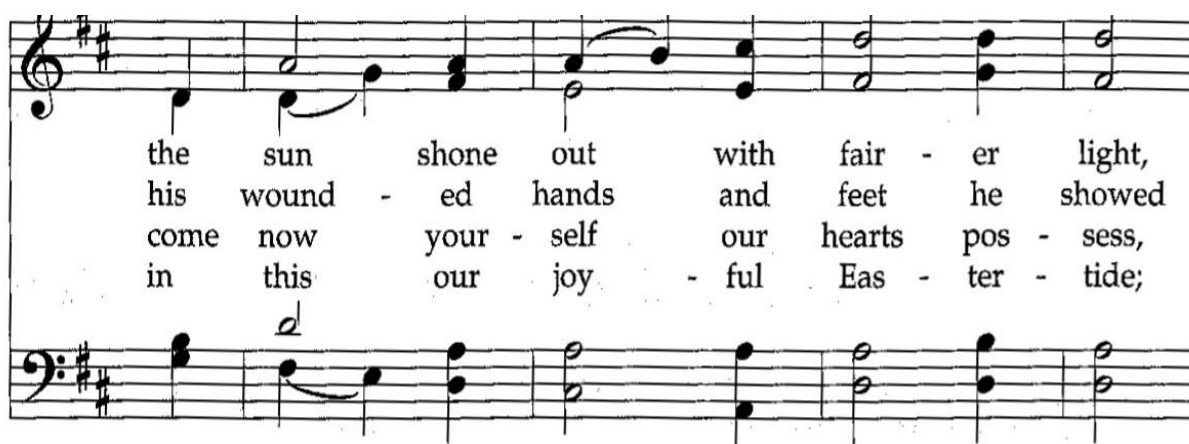
Returning to the World

(Please rise in body or in spirit.)

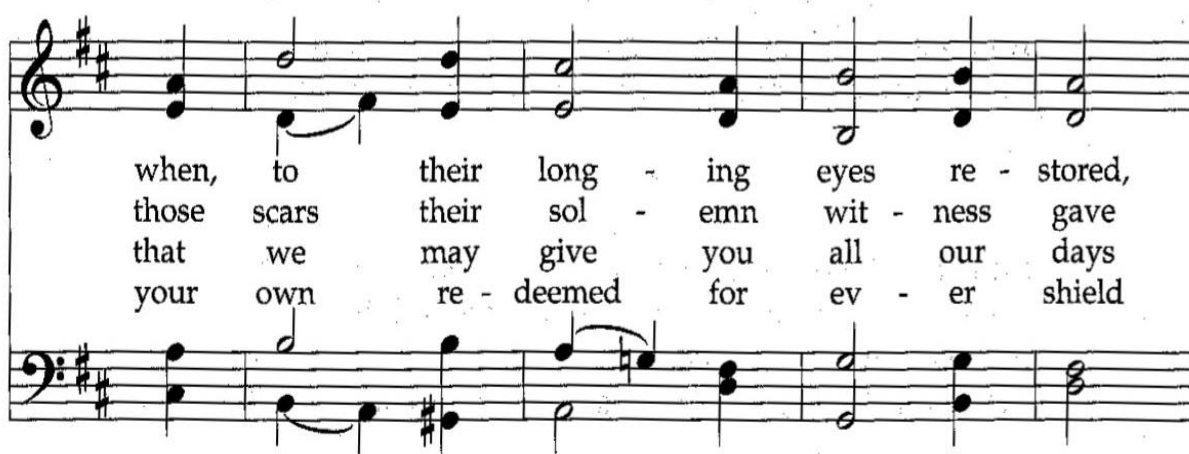
Song: “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” (*Chalice #229*)



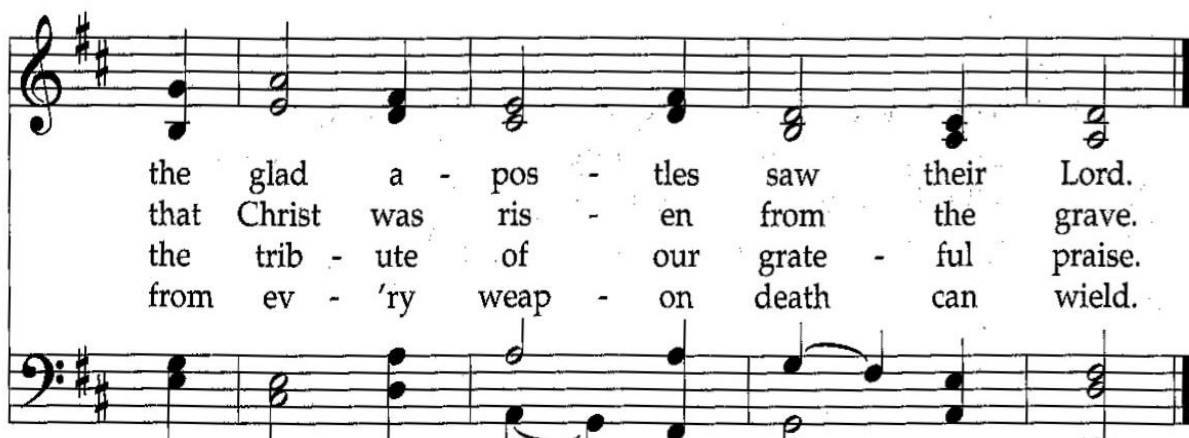
1. That Eas - ter day with joy was bright,
 2. His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed;
 3. O Je - sus, strong in gen - tle - ness,
 4. Come, ris - en Christ, with us a - bide



the sun shone out with fair - er light,
 his wound - ed hands and feet he showed
 come now your - self our hearts pos - sess,
 in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide;



when, to their long - ing eyes re - stored,
 those scars their sol - emn wit - ness gave
 that we may give you all our days
 your own re - deemed for ev - er shield



the glad a - pos - tles saw their Lord.
 that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
 the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.

Benediction

All: The Divine One has blessed us with the cup of Life.
The Divine One has blessed us with the cup of Goodness.
The Divine One has blessed us with the cup of Freedom.
Drink deeply!

All: God's love guides us to welcome and include people as they are, serve compassionately, and champion environmental care and social justice.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Sending Music: *"He Lives!"* – Ackley

*Go into all the world to love and serve those who are afraid or powerless
following Jesus' example!*

[Liturgy comes from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022. Easter 2*
"The Cup of Freedom" by Marcia McFee from the *Worship Design Studio, 2025*
Hymns licensed by: One License – annual license w/ podcasting renewal: category D
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CSPL108972 Size B]

Give Online Through Realm



Or Text 'COA' to 73256 with the amount you want to give

Prayers of Joy and Concern

(as of printing on 4/23/2025)

Joys: The Birth of Isabella Rose to Breanne & Carlos Cornielle; Students finishing the school year; The Birth of Margaret Lucie to Ann (Berkow) & Dylan Metz.

Concerns: Duke Gabriel; Gary Whol; Fredericka Smith; Our Government Leaders; Frieu Christina; Dean Witmer; Friend of Trish Dubbs, Julie Lawson; Friends & Family of Henry R; Shane Diehl; Friend of the Eaton's, Shirley Hoffman; John Eshbach; Linda Schock; Ellen Schellenberger; Family & Friends of Russell Wilson; Friends of Bill Hager, Christina & Dee.

To add your prayers of joy and concern, email office@apostlesucc.org
or call 717-392-5718 ext 8200

APOSTLE ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION JUSTICE TOWN HALL TODAY – Join the conversation on public education funding in Pennsylvania! A town hall with elected officials will be held on Sunday, April 27, at 4 PM in our Sanctuary. Don't miss this opportunity to engage in an important discussion about the future of our schools.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER TICKETS ON SALE – Join us on Saturday, May 17, 2025, as we celebrate 50 years of faith, fellowship, and community at Church of the Apostles! Doors open at 5:30 PM with a catered dinner at 6:00 PM at the Bachman Center. Enjoy a choice of turkey, beef, stuffed shells, sides, dessert, and a special slideshow featuring guest speakers.

Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased on Realm until April 28th. Sponsoring a seat or table for someone in need is also available on Realm. If you need a sponsored ticket, contact Rev. Kuhn at kathryn@apostlesucc.org or (717) 392-5718 ext. 8201. Let's celebrate this milestone together—get your tickets now by scanning the QR code to the right!



Get Your Tickets Now!

PHILADELPHIA HANDBELL ENSEMBLE – As part of our 50th anniversary, we're excited to welcome the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble for a free concert on May 3, 2025, at 4 PM. Experience their incredible musicianship and unique handbell techniques. Sponsored by the Apostles Academy of Arts and Science, with a free-will offering. Don't miss it!

BILL HAGER PERFORMANCE – Join Church of the Apostles on May 10th at 7 PM in the Sanctuary for a special presentation by member, photographer, and author Bill Hager. Bill will share two captivating stories, *Evangeline: Guardian of the Muted Forest* and *Angel Island*. Don't miss this unique storytelling experience! This free performance, generously provided by the Apostles Academy of Arts and Science, will include a free-will offering to support **Chasing Rainbows: Supporting and Uniting Baby Loss Survivors**.