



Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 23, 2017
9:15 am
Grace Hall, North Campus

Welcome to First Community Church

We are a Christian church, affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ denominations. We welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith, and those who are searching.

Christian worship has been offered by First Community Church for over 107 years. By worshipping with us today, you become a part of that living tradition. Our regular worshippers and church members, supported by members of the staff and a large number of volunteers, make up our church community. We are committed to diversity, equal opportunities and personal and spiritual development of all who work and worship here, because, as our church's belief statement says, "we strive to follow the path of Jesus Christ while recognizing other pathways to the divine."

Thank you for being with us for worship today. If you desire a pastoral call, please indicate this on the welcome pad. If you are in need of prayer, please fill out a prayer card located in the Welcome pad booklet and place it in the offering plate. Our prayers go with you as you return to your home.

(The paper we use for the order of service is recycled. You are welcome to take it away with you, but, if you would like us to recycle it, please place it in one of the bins at an exit, as we are also committed to our environment, God's Creation.)

The Service of the Word

Second Sunday of Easter



The very least you can do in your life is figure out what you hope for.

And the most you can do is live inside that hope.

Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof.

— Barbara Kingsolver (b 1955), *Animal Dreams*

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE CALL TO CONTEMPLATION

For the time during the prelude, we invite you to be in prayer. As you leave the service of worship, join in rejoicing with your neighbor.

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

Prelude on the Easter Hymn, "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing"

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, children of God, to sing a new song; for God, in steadfast love and faithfulness, has done marvelous things.

People: God raised Jesus from the dead; Christ is alive and at work among us.

Leader: Come to Christ, people of God, taste the kindness of God!

People: With joy we come to worship God!

†THE OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE

Creator God, Creating Still

St. Anne

**Creator God, creating still, by will and word and deed.
Create a new humanity to meet the present need.**

**Redeemer God, redeeming still, with overflowing grace,
Pour out Your love on us, through us, make this a holy place.**

**Sustainer God, sustaining still, with strength for every day,
Empower us now to do Your will. Correct us when we stray.**

**Great Triune God, for this new day we need Your presence still.
Create, redeem, sustain us now to do Your work and will.**

†THE PRAYER

Leader: With sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, let us pray.

People: **O God, we thank You that our fears and sorrows are no barrier to Your love. Whenever we have retreated behind closed doors, You have sought us out to comfort and strengthen us. Though we have not felt the breath of Your presence like the disciples, yet we have felt You close to us.**

Leader: Each time a fresh peace dispels anxiety, each time we feel the impulse to serve another in love, we have signs of Your closeness to us.

People: **We thank You for calling us to share in Your work of love and justice, and for the sense of communion we find in Your church.**

Leader: Draw near to all who live in fear; refresh all who are dispirited; restore the lonely to the joy of friendship,

All: **And send us to share in this ministry, helping to fulfill these prayers. Amen.**

†THE ALLELUIA ⁽¹⁾

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Alleluia No. 1



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to His name.

Verse 1: Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.

All: **Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.**

Verse 2: Come; let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior.

All: **Alleluia, alleluia...**

THE WELCOME

THE PSALTER READING

Psalm 16

Leader: Protect me, O God, for in You I take refuge.

People: **I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You."**

Leader: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot.

People: **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.**

Leader: I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

People: **I keep the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

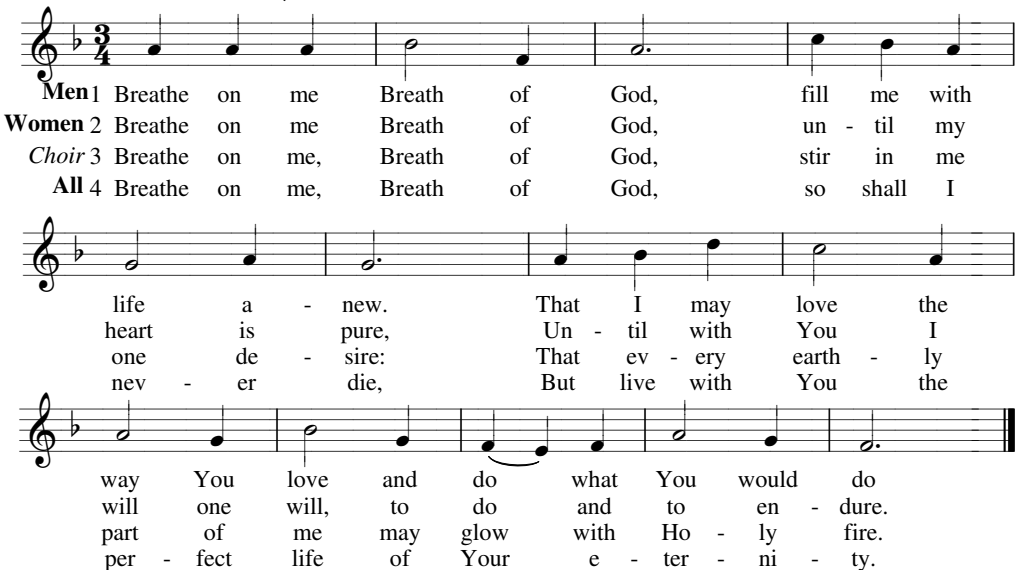
Leader: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

People: **You show me the path of life, O God. In Your presence there is hope; in You I discover eternal joy.**

THE HYMN (*remain seated to sing*)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Trentham



Men 1 Breathe on me Breath of God, fill me with
 Women 2 Breathe on me Breath of God, un - til my
 Choir 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me
 All 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I

life a - new. That I may love the
 heart is pure, Un - til with You I
 one de - sire, That ev - ery earth - ly
 nev - er die, But live with You the

way You love and do what You would do
 will one will, to do and to en - dure.
 part of me may glow with Ho - ly fire.
 per - fect life of Your e - ter - ni - ty.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

(Following the prayers the children in K-5 may leave for the Sunday School classes.)

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Anthem

I Know that My Redeemer Lives

Gilbert M. Martin (*b* 1941)

I know that my Redeemer lives:
What joy the blest assurance gives!

He lives who once was dead;
He lives my everlasting Head!

He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need;

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives all glory to His name;
He lives my Savior still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

†The Prayer of Dedication

Leader: As the gifts are presented, would all rise in body or spirit to pray.

Now as in ancient Galilee, Christ works among us.

Now as then, he calls, "Follow me."

All: Use these gifts, O God, to comfort and to heal, to strengthen and empower Your people. Help us each day to trust Your living presence and to serve all creation with Christ-like compassion. Amen.

†The *Hymn* and Presentation of Gifts

Lasst uns erfreuen

**Adoring praises now we bring;
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

(The people may be seated for the Epistle reading.)

THE EPISTLE READING

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Leader: These words are breathed into us by the Holy Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

CONSPIRACY OF HOPE: LIVING BEYOND FEAR
Part 1: The Wide Open Spaces of God’s Grace

†THE HYMN

Let Us Hope when Hope Seems Hopeless⁽²⁾

Beach Spring

1 Let us hope when hope seems hope - less, when the dreams we dreamed have
 2 Faith and hope in love's com - pas - sion will sur - vive though knowl - edge
 died. When the morn - ing breaks in bright - ness, hun - ger
 cease, though the tongues of joy fall si - lent, dull the
 shall be sat - is - fied. One who sows the fields with
 words of proph - e - cies. Faith shall see and trust its
 weep - ing shall re - trace the sor - row - ing way and re -
 ob - ject; hope shall set its an - chor sure; love shall
 joyce in har - vest boun - ty at the break - ing of the day.
 bloom in Love e - ter - nal. Faith and hope and love en - dure.

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

I Know My Redeemer Lives

George Shearing (1919-2011)

~ *The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service* ~

† All rise in body or spirit

PARTICIPANTS

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. R. Glen Miles
Senior Minister

Liturgist: The Reverend Mr. David S. Hett
Minister of Religious Life and Learning

Lay Reader: Rose Kandel

Ushers: Group B

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ronald J. Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*
Sally R. Beske, *Associate Organist & Director of Youth Choirs*
THE CHANCEL CHAMBER CHOIR

- **Welcome visitors!** Stop by our Welcome Center for information on programs and activities and pick up a copy of our newspaper.
- **Church Membership:** Please contact Kristy Glaser at (614) 488-0681 ext. 161 or kglaser@FCchurch.com if you are interested in becoming a member.
- **Baptisms:** Our next Baptism Sunday will be May 14. For more information go to FCchurch.com/baptisms. To schedule a public or private baptism, contact Paula Russell at (614) 488-0681 ext. 228 or prussell@FCchurch.com
- Watch the 11 am service from the South Campus live at FCchurch.tv
- Watch *First Edition* on WWHO-TV, The CW, Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.
- If you need to step out during worship – restless child, coughing spell, etc. – the service can be heard in Unity Lounge.
- **Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher.**
- Today, the Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry is presenting a quilt. Tie a knot and say a prayer in Unity Lounge at the North Campus or the Weist Room at the South Campus following the worship service. The quilt is for Kevin Satterfield.

Available Today Following Worship

- Grocery Gift Cards (Mission Council)
- Spiritual Searcher

⁽¹⁾ *Alleluia! Alleluia, Give Thanks.* © 1973. The Word of God, Ann Arbor, MI. Reprinted under OneLicense net #A-708978.

⁽²⁾ *Let Us Hope when Hope Seems Hopeless.* Words by David Beebe, 1989. © 1994 Pilgrim Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

TODAY AT FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

North Campus

9:15 am Worship: Grace Hall
Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing
K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in the Rose Wing.

10:30 am Worship: Grace Hall
Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing
K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in the Rose Wing.
Middle School: In worship.

South Campus

8:30 am Worship: Burkhart Chapel
Communion served.

9:30 am Adult Education: Wicker Room

11 am Worship: Sanctuary
Crib to 5 years: Rooms 221 & 110
K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to Lincoln Road Chapel.
Middle School: In worship.

Today the K-5 children will continue to explore the Easter story.

Grades 6-12 are invited to **Crossroads** tonight, 7 - 8:30 pm, North Campus.

Parish Register

As of 4/19/17

Our Pastoral Care staff is available if you desire a visit or call during an illness, hospitalization or time of need.

Recently Hospitalized

Corlene Adams
John Klamar

Deaths

Alma J. Rosen 4/1/17
*Mother of Angela (Kevin) Jones
Grandmother of Jacob Jones*

Visit FCchurch.com/parish-register to view listings of upcoming Memorial Services. Please send notifications of births, hospitalizations, weddings or deaths to prussell@FCchurch.com or call (614) 488-0681 ext 228.

FCchurch.com

info@FCchurch.com

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