



HE IS RISEN.

~ CLC Weekly Update ~

Easter - Resurrection Sunday

Sunday, April 4, 2021

WORSHIP WITH US!

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

this Sunday, April 4th at 9:30AM

or go to: <https://www.clcmillvale.com>



RESURRECTION SUNDAY WORSHIP

Blessing of the New Easter Candle

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Gospel: The Reading of the Resurrection and Empty Tomb
John 20:1-18

Sermon: "WE WILL RISE",
Steve Slepecki preaching

Renewal of Baptismal Promises


Hymns:

Processional Gathering Hymn: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise"

Hymn of the Day: "Three Days"

Sending Hymn: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL EASTER MESSAGE UPDATE



Snow at the end of March! Even though the daffodils are blooming and there are buds on the trees, we get one more day of cold and damp. It reminds me of the CLC journey. Although we have had joy and sadness, we know in our hearts that God loves us and is there for us. Especially this week, where we are shown God's ultimate love and the sacrifice of his son for us. We will still come together to celebrate another wonderful Easter and have hope for the future with our new Pastor, Erin Evans.

Although we tried to have communion this Easter, we were unable to find a pastor to consecrate the elements properly. We look forward to the full in-person service with Pastor Evans on April 11, 2021. -

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!



Pastor Mike Robinson is available for emergencies - you can call or text him at 412-260-4407 (cell). Please leave a message if he is not able to answer immediately. Thank you!

No Fear

As people who are used to greeting Easter morning with flowers, banners, trumpets, and boisterous hymns, fear and silence aren't quite what we expect to find at the empty tomb! The end of the Easter story can feel disquieting; maybe that's why a faithful person added another ending or two.

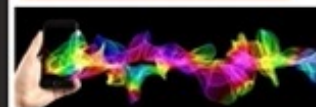
Fear and silence are hallmarks of human life. Anyone who says they have never been afraid is either living under a rock or probably not sharing the full truth of their experience of things. As vulnerable human creatures, we are susceptible to fear, which can cascade into silence at our worst when we are most frightened. That is exactly where we meet the disciples today.

Yet someone, sometime, somewhere, had to have said something, or else we would not be here worshipping at Easter. At some point joy crept up and leapt over the disciples' terror and paralysis. At some point the words were blurted out and released into the air with gladness: "Christ is risen, alleluia!" Today, we enter the story on the other side of fear and silence.

Someone among those disciples did indeed proclaim the truth: **Christ is risen!** We can rest assured knowing that despair and death don't have the last word. Drawn into the resurrection life of Jesus, we are invited to take part in this movement of God, shouting with loud praise, "**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**" ~



Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com



The Great Hallel תהל

Joseph Imhoff

"Alleluia!" Easter, we can finally say that word. "Alleluia!" Not since Transfiguration Sunday has the word been in the remote liturgy from CLC. Why should a word, actually a phrase meaning "Praise to God" dating from [The Liturgy of Saint James](#), named for the brother of Jesus and a martyr, be considered taboo during Lent? I thought you would never ask!

The events of Holy Week beginning with Maundy Thursday coincide with the Jewish Passover, this year beginning at sundown on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. The Last Supper took place the first night of Passover in that year. The Seder is a time of joy and remembrance of the release from bondage in Egypt and throughout the ceremony 'Halleluya', הללויה (Praise to God) is offered; 'hallel', הלל, the unspoken יהוה, meaning praise and 'ya', a short form for Jehovah or YHWH, name for God.

The tradition of Passover did not end but continued in the early Christian community and eventually the Church celebrated Maundy Thursday as a distinct entity. The word remained but Lent being a time for penance and reflection waiting for the Rising From the Tomb on Easter it was suppressed until that bright morning.

Easter is the time for the Alleluias, and where else to find them but in The Bible, the Book of Psalms. There we find the Hallel Shalem הלל שלם, the complete 'Praise to God' prayers for festivals recorded in Psalms 113-118, Psalm 136 known as the Great Hallel, and the Hallel Psalms 145-150 for daily prayers. Now when "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" is proclaimed for Easter be ready to reply, cry out! Sing out! No, shout out, "Alleluia!", 'Praise be to God', and really mean it! "Hallel!"