

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman, NJ

4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 25, 2021 • Rev. Drew Harrison

For Prayer and Contemplation

I know: there is someone waiting for me, who will not give me up, who goes ahead of me, who lifts me up, someone to whom I am important.

-Jurgen Moltmann

Welcome & Sharing Information Please sign the Fellowship Pad.

Prelude Tyler Bell Choir – “On Wings Above” - Jason Krug

Call to Worship

One: I was glad when they said unto me,

All: **Let us go into the house of the Lord.**

One: Online or in-person, at home or in a pew,

All: **Let us go into the house of the Lord.**

One: Just as we are, knowing we are loved and welcomed,

All: **Let us go into the house of the Lord.**

One: In hope or in distress, ready to hear the Good News,

All: **Let us go into the house of the Lord.**

One: Let us rejoice and praise God,
the source of all our hope.

All: **Amen.**

*Hymn No. 772 “Live Into Hope”

Prayer of Confession

Lord of all,

we confess that we do not have enough imagination for our world.

You tell us of a lion dwelling with the lamb,

but we cannot imagine among the nations or on our streets.

You tell us of a banquet where everyone will feast,
but we cannot imagine a way to feed the hungry.

We know that we will not make a better world
unless we believe it is possible.

Forgive us, Lord.

Give us holy imagination.

Invite us again to see with your eyes

so that we might know your will for us,

and follow where it leads.

Moment of Silence

Words of Assurance

One: Hear now God’s promise through the prophet Ezekiel:

I will sprinkle clean water upon you,

and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness,

A new heart I will give you,

and a new spirit I will put within you.

And I will remove from your body the heart of stone

and give you a heart of flesh.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Hymn No. 591 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

“Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!”

*Passing of Peace

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Time with Children

Scripture Acts 4:23-31 (NT 122 • LP 148)

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon “They Must Be Crazy” - Rev. Drew Harrison

*Affirmation of Faith

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.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

*Doxology No. 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all

creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Dear God, you have called, and we answer. In humble

thanks, we offer our gifts to you. Show us how to serve.

The Prayers of the People

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 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.

*Hymn No. 773 “Heaven Shall Not Wait”

*Benediction

*Benediction Hymn No. 240 (v2) “Alleluia, Alleluia”

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia,

Alleluia, Give praise to his name. Spread the good news o'er

all the earth. Jesus has died and has risen. Alleluia, Alleluia,

Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Give praise

to his name.

***** *Please stand as you are able.* *****



Worship Helpers

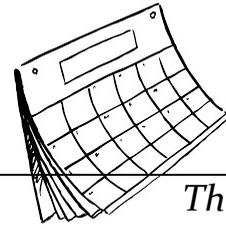
<i>Thank you to our Worship Servers</i>	
Liturgist	Darlene Jacobson
Ushers	Bev Donofrio, Bobbi Wilkins



Music Notes

Today's prelude, "On Wings Above" by Jason Krug, was written in memory of Mary Lynn Wolfe, a devoted handbell ringer and friend at Cross of Grace Lutheran Church in New Palestine, Indiana. After retiring as the Chief of Radiology at a local hospital, Mary Lynn became interested in handbell ringing at Cross of Grace Lutheran. Her love and passion for handbell ringing quickly blossomed until she was ringing in three handbell choirs and attending several handbell workshops and festivals. Mary Lynn's dedication and enthusiasm inspired her fellow ringers. On April 27, 2018, Mary Lynn and her husband, Tom, tragically lost their lives in a small plane crash on the way to a handbell festival on Mackinac Island, Michigan. This handbell piece depicts that tragic flight, using an effective technique (Martelatto Lift - striking the bell on the pad and lifting it) to portray the danger and sadness of this event. A melody follows creating beauty and wonder. The random ringing at the close of the piece depicts a glorious, triumphal entry into heaven.

--Sue Hummel, Bell Choir Director



<i>This Week's Calendar</i> April 25-May 2	
<i>Sunday</i> April 25	10 AM Worship
<i>Monday</i> April 26	6:30 PM Session
<i>Tuesday</i> April 27	
<i>Wednesday</i> April 28	
<i>Thursday</i> April 29	
<i>Friday</i> April 30	
<i>Saturday</i> May 1	
<i>Sunday</i> May 2	10 AM Worship 11 AM Special Congregation Meeting 2 PM Deacons

welcome back
**The First Presbyterian
 Church in Pitman**



"God's Open House"

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Sunday Worship Service • 10 AM