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Sunday, March 31, 2024





Welcome to Epworth Worship Sunday 10 am in-person and online

10 am <u>Blended Worship Order</u> <u>Calendar</u> & <u>Announcements</u> <u>Prayer List</u> <u>Staff & Leadership</u>

<u>VISION</u>: Explore Faith, Embrace Community <u>MISSION</u>: Inviting, Belonging, Connecting, Caring

All Means All

As a <u>Reconciling Ministries Network</u> congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd. Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971 302-227-7743 <u>Epworth.faith</u>



~ We Gather in Worship ~

Beautiful Terrible Cross Todd Smith, Tony Wood, & Chad Cates ©2007 Curb Congregation Songs Praise Team

There is a beautiful, terrible cross where, though You committed no sin, Savior, You suffered the most wicked fate on the cruelest creation of man.

Yet, on that beautiful, terrible cross You did what only You could: turning that dark inspired evil of hell into our soul's greatest good.

We see the love that You showed us, we see the life that You lost. We bow in wonder and praise You for the beautiful, terrible cross.

There on that beautiful, terrible cross, though darkness was strong on that hill, You remained sov'reign, Lord, still in control

as Your perfect plan was fulfilled. We see the love that You showed us, we see the life that You lost. We bow in wonder and praise You for the beautiful, terrible cross.

Oh, we gained the riches of heaven. Jesus, You paid the horrible cost. We stand forgiven and praise You for the beautiful, terrible cross, for the beautiful, terrible cross.

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever. 'Til my raptured soul shall find peace beyond the river. Beautiful cross, terrible cross. Beautiful cross, terrible cross.

King of Kings

Scott Ligertwood, Brooke Ligertwood, & Jason Ingram ©2019 Hillsong Publishing Praise Team / Chancel Choir In the darkness, we were waiting without hope, without light, 'til from heaven You came running; there was mercy in Your eyes. To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word, from a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt. *Praise Jehovah, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, Three in One. God of glory, Majesty,*

praise forever to the King of kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost, To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross. For even in your suffring, You saw to the other side. Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake You died. {Repeat Chorus}

And the morning that You rose, all of heaven held its breath, 'til that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death. And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe, For the souls of all who'd come to Jehovah are restored.

And the church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame. Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint. By His blood and in His name, in his freedom I am free, For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me. Oh, Praise Jehovah, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, Three in One. God of glory, Majesty, praise forever to the King of kings. Praise forever to the King of kings.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Lesson: *Mark 16:1-8* Joy Gordy-Stith, reader When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.

They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb,

for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. May this scripture inspire us all...

to walk in the way that leads to life.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Words: Charles Wesley; Arranged by Hal H. Hopson ©1983

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and Heav'n in chorus say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

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

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia! AMEN.

Kid's Time

Joy Gordy-Stith

Jesus Is Alive!

Ron Kenoly ©1987 Integrity's Hosanna! Music Hallelujah! Jesus is alive! Death has lost its vict'ry and the grave has been denied. Jesus lives forever – He's alive, He's alive! He's the alpha and omega, the first and last is He; The curse of sin is broken and we have perfect liberty. The Lamb of God has risen, He's alive! He's alive! {Repeat to top}

He's the alpha and omega, the first and last is He; The curse of sin is broken and we have perfect liberty. The Lamb of God has risen, He's alive! He's alive! *Hallelujah, Jesus is alive! Death has lost its vict'ry and the grave has been denied. Jesus lives forever – He's alive, Hallelujah! Jesus is alive!*

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Christ Is Risen

Brian Wren, 1984 / Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days. Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed. In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise Your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend; Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!" God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

Prayers of the People

Bob Thoman

On this Day of Resurrection, we pray to You, Risen One!

Your healing power provides us answered prayers; transformed lives; reformed systems; children embraced. All that is good comes from you. Everything that is life comes from you.

And we praise you, as Calvary's victory is proved again a thousand times each day in glimpses, miracles and reconciliations. Even as we wait for an end to the good fight and strive to have faith for long dead hopes to burst to life as you promised -When your kingdom comes, and your will is done on earth as in heaven. The day with no more pain, no more poverty,

The day with no more pain, no more poverty, no child alone or hungry.

But for now, we long for a day when the child, who has been running away for years, every week, without fail, ...doesn't. The day when the disabled child, is finally accepted for who they are. When the traveler, for so long the outsider, suddenly becomes a friend.

There are those days when, in the face of despair, for some unexpected and incomprehensible reason, our long dead hopes are brought back to life.

There are those days we suddenly realize the stone has been moved... and the tomb is empty.

In Christ Alone

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2002 Thank You Music Chancel Choir

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song. This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease. My comforter, my all in all. Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh. Fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save When on that cross as Jesus died the sting of death was then defied. For every sin on him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain. Then bursting forth in glorious day up from the grave He rose again. And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me. For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand. 'Til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand. Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

We Pray for Our Pastor

Bob Thoman

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

My Redeemer Lives

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2002 ThankYou Music Praise Team

I know He rescued my soul, His blood, He covered my sin,

I believe, I believe. My shame, He's taken away, my pain is healed in His name, I believe, I believe. I'll raise a banner: My Lord has conquered the grave! My redeemer lives! My redeemer lives! My redeemer lives! My redeemer lives! {Repeat to top – Chorus 2x}

You lift my burden, I rise with you. I'm dancing on this mountain top to see Your kingdom come. {Chorus 2x}

Prayer of Confession / Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are those who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

<u>The Lord's Prayer</u> Spoken

Music during Communion: Ave Verum Corpus

W.A. Mozart, 1791 Chancel Choir Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered,

Sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed: Be for us a sweet foretaste in the trial of death! O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

Because He Lives

William & Gloria Gaither, Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Maher, & Jason Ingram ©2014 Hanna Street Music Praise Team / Chancel Choir

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One. I believe I overcome by the power of His love. *Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives. Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends, because He lives.*

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame. I heard mercy call my name. He rolled the stone away.

> Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives. Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends,

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, ev'ry fear is gone. I know He holds my life, my future in His hands.

Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives. Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends,

Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives. Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends, because He lives. Because He lives. Amen.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

The Hallelujah Chorus

Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of March 31, 2024

Sympathy

To Barbara Simpson, family and friends, on the death of Barbara's father, Allen Wenker To Cathy and Tom Lewis, family and friends, on the death of their friend, Vic Staut

Concerns:

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip People of Ukraine Deaf People of Ukraine Gary Arrell Gary Bacon Ann Beigay *Michael Beigay James Belknap David Bendekovits *Cathy Benson Addison Bigos *Jeff Bond Diaz Bonville *Andy Brangenberg Vic & Tina Broccolino Christian Brown Diane Bruce *Tim Bush Judy Buchanan *Jennifer Eden Family David Caffier Ron & Patti Cain Gail Clifford Joelle Colleta Sylvie Drew Sherri Ealy Carol Fehrenbach Deb Ferlitto Finn Marion Ford *Vicki Gordy-Stith *Tom Groff Shannon Harris Bryan Hecksher Kathy Hill Ray Hilt Barb Hoffman *Mickey Hoffman Carolyn Horn Teri Fitzgerald Vincent Imhof *Sandra Kennedy Chloe Kincade-Crean Kris Koch **Return to Table of Contents**

Nancy Krupa *Duncan Leet Eton Lewis Loretta Mahan Jerry Mahon Kathleen Marto Bob Mazur Linda McLane *Missy Mehring Pam Mehring Brenda Milbourne *Laura Miller Joy Mitchell Steve Mosteller Jack O'Day Steve Oliverez Donald Palmer Ann Paulen *Ron Paxton *Sandy & Glenn Pierce Richard Pioli *Dan Potts *Annette Predeaux Constance Quillen Frank Quillen Charlie Reynolds Dallas Reynolds Pete Roche Barbara Simpson *John Riley Spillane Jana Raup Judy Reich Victoria Reinholt Charlie Reynolds Dallas Reynolds Beth Rinker *Bill Robbins *Sandy Roca Wilmarie Rodriguez *John Sadler *Irene & Tom Safrit Mark Saunders *Ed Scarborough Jan Silbaugh Barbara Simpson Family Joan and Henry Simpson *Fred and Sharyn Smith Ray Sonderfan Paul Streit *Scott Strickler Dr. David Tam *Cheryl Tarlecky *Mark Thompson

Mike Tibets Ryan Talumello *Susanne Truitt Harvey and Peggy Waltersdorf Donald Walton Wanda Walton-Hummel Travis Weber *Kristin Weschler *Tina Whalev Michael Wills, Sr Carol Wine Lorrie Witcher *Charlotte Woods *Claire Worrall Carolin & Lincoln Yates *Michelle Yates *Susan Yates *Jean Young

<u>Prayers for those in Assisted Living,</u> <u>Homebound, Hospice or in Long Term</u> <u>Care</u>

*Donna Blomquist, The Moorings *Ann Chambers, The Moorings Leon Cromer, Harbor Health *Carolyn Robinson-Brandywine *Linda Rooney Quinn Smith Elaine Trexler *Dan Wine

Servicemen/Women

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska Hailye Wilson, USCG Key West Luke Wilson, USCG Key West Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB Jacob Hudson, Quantico Andrew Hudson, UT ROTC

College/Grad Students

Autumn Reynolds-Cedar Crest College *Kristina Alexander, Grad UD Cole Thomas Juliano, Elon Wade Stout *Thomas Vyas, Delaware Tech Griffin Barrows, Marist

*Church Member



Staff & Leadership

Church Office: 302-227-7743 (plus extension) Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith (x102) Pastor of Community & Communication: Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith (x103) Minister of Music: **Doug Yetter** (x106) Caring Minister: Mickie McManamon (x104) Belonging Minister: Gwen Osborne (x108) Youth Minister: Joy Gordy-Stith Minister to Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Sandy Roca Preschool Director: **Betsy Plowman** (x107) Financial Manager: Darlene Ford (x105) Facilities Manager: John Hilt Cemetery Superintendent: Jay Stevenson Office Manager: Tammy Zhang (x100) Governing Board Chair—Linda Kauffman Lay Leader—<u>Todd Popham</u> Finance Chair—David Hagelin Staff-Parish Relations Chair—Sandy Pierce Board of Trustees Chair—<u>Bunny Maher</u> Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: Susan Jimenez Inviting Leadership Team (Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Social Justice) Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith and Bob Joynson **Belonging Leadership Team** (Small Groups, New Members/Belongings, Sunday School, Youth & Adult Groups) Gwen Osborne, Linda BenderHilt, Loretta Mahan, Cathie Lewis and Teri Moore **Connecting Leadership Team** (Worship, Music, Arts)

Doug Yetter and Murray Archibald

<u>Caring Leadership Team</u> (Missions, Pastoral Care Team, Care Ministries)

Mickie McManamon, Dee Speck and Holly Reynolds