

# EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH

## United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand. The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal

**Chimes Concert** at 10:00 a.m. from Trinity Chapel's steeple

### Greetings and Announcements

**Prelude** *Savior God Above*

- *COME SUNDAY, Duke Ellington*  
*Terri Wenner, soloist*

### \*Call to Worship *(after Psalm 23)*

Let us pray these familiar words,  
recognizing in the Risen Christ our Good Shepherd:

**Jesus, you are our shepherd.**

**We shall never want.**

**You make us lie down in green pastures;  
you lead us beside the still waters.**

**You restore our souls.**

**You guide us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.**

**Even though we may walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,**

**we fear no evil, for you, Christ, comfort us.**

**Jesus has prepared a table for us**

**in the presence of our foes;**

**Jesus has anointed us with the oil of salvation;  
our cup runs over!**

**Surely, goodness and mercy will follow us  
all the days of our lives,**

**And we will dwell in the house**

**of our Holy Savior forever and ever. Amen.**

### \*Opening Prayer

**Incarnate God,**

**You are the one who comes to us in Jesus Christ.**

**Holy One,**

**You are the one who comes to us in the Holy Spirit.**

**Sovereign of Earth and Heaven,**

**You are the one who calls us to recognize you today and every day**

As splendid *Mystery*.

Gather our hearts and minds this day.

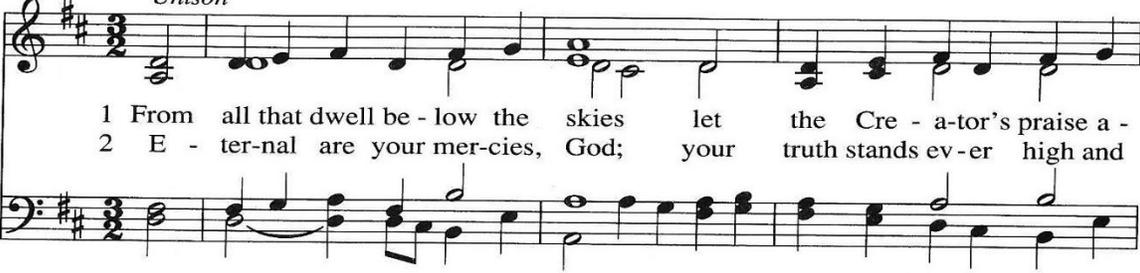
Kindle our God-consciousness.

Let us worship you in awe and wonder! Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn** *From All That Dwell below the Skies*

# 27

*Unison*



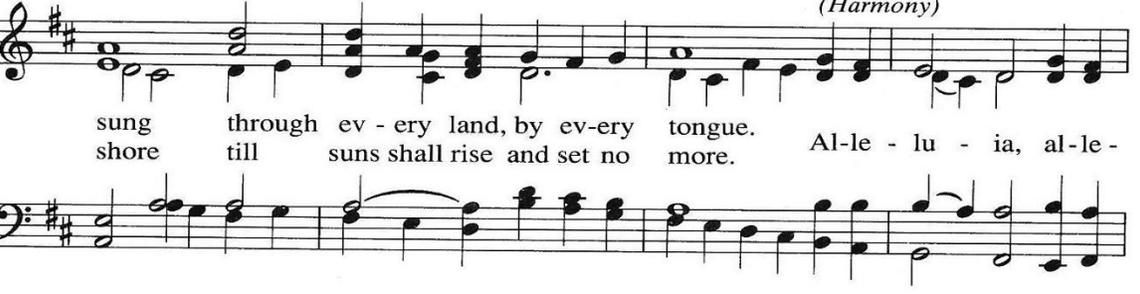
1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre - a - tor's praise a -  
2 E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, God; your truth stands ev - er high and

*(Harmony)* *(Unison)*



rise; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's name be  
broad: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Your praise shall sound from shore to

*(Harmony)*



sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

*(Unison)*



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession** *(Luke 24:13-35)*

Merciful and Loving God, we ask forgiveness  
because our consciousness of you  
is dimmed by everyday desires and needs.

**Raise our consciousness of you, O God.**

We forget that we are a reflection of your image.  
We act as though you are a Sunday-only event.

**Increase our mindfulness of you, O God.**

Help us to a greater common awareness  
of your deep mystery and infinite presence.

**Rouse our awareness of you, God.**

Open our eyes from surface focus to depth perception.  
Turn our heads from shallow concerns to eternal truths.

**Awaken us from faint-heartedness, O God.**

Forgive us for our narrow and selfish ways.  
Save us from cheap grace with your amazing grace.

**Forgive us, O God. We ask in Jesus' precious name. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Holy, Forgiving God, we are your sheep.  
You keep us awake and aware.  
You can increase our God-consciousness every day of our lives.  
Bless you and praise you for forgiving us  
when we are barely mindful enough to ask.  
Help us to enter by the door  
when we hear the voice of the Good Shepherd.  
We hear your voice of pardon.  
Through Christ's grace we are forgiven this morning, and we go in.  
**Amen.**

**Thought For the Day**

**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, for ever. Amen.**

**The Scriptures**

Acts 2:42-47

John 10:1-10

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Offering**

**Anthem** *Fairest Lord Jesus*

*- D. Hakes  
ERUCC Singers*

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Communion Prayer**

Through all the seasons  
and changes of our lives  
there is one that stands above all others:  
this Season of Easter,  
in which we celebrate with unbridled joy  
the presence of the risen and living Christ  
in our midst.

No matter where we have been,  
or where we find ourselves today,  
we are bold to gather in joy  
knowing that our living  
is tied up with that of Christ  
who lives forever.

With joy we gather  
at this sacred table  
to be sacred community:  
to be the people called by God  
into new and everlasting life.

We celebrate the joyous opportunity  
to share good news with all the world:  
that Christ's resurrection is for all people,  
that God's love is for all people,  
that this table and this feast  
are for all people.

We remember Jesus gathering  
with his closest friends  
yet knowing they would scatter,  
leaving him alone.  
Still, he gathered with them  
and shared this simple meal,  
taking bread and wine  
and infusing them with new life;  
taking ordinary things  
and making them extraordinary in their new use.

And so we take the ordinary –  
bread and juice –  
and make it extraordinary by offering it to you.

We take this simple bread,  
and as it is broken we think of Jesus' words:  
"Take and eat; this is my body broken for you."

**All: It is broken that we may live in fullness and wholeness.**

We take this simple cup,  
and as it is lifted up we think of Jesus' words:  
"Take and drink; this is my blood, poured out for you and many for the  
forgiveness of sin."

**All: It is poured out that we may know ourselves forgiven.**

We know that in this meal  
we are gathered by a great community  
that has gone before us.

### **Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

*(You are invited to place your hands over the bread and cup in your home  
as we share this blessing.)*

Bless us now in the sharing of this meal,  
that we may be enlivened to share your gifts  
with those who hunger and thirst  
for acceptance, for new life, for wholeness.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Loving God, you have gathered us  
out of love for you,**

**and reminded us at this table  
that we are one people.  
Send us out, now, into a hurting world  
to share the good news  
that Christ is alive for all people. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

# 472

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:**

**Refrain: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall** *refrain*

**When the shadows appear and the night draws near,  
And the day is past and gone,  
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:** *refrain*

**\*Benediction** *(from 1 Peter and John 10)*

You are called for a purpose:  
for the sake of knowing and drawing close toward God  
a person bears up under sorrows.

**We are not here by chance.**

You are choice and precious in the sight of God,  
and as living stones, your lives are being built up  
into a spiritual sanctuary where the justice and mercy and peace  
of the Risen Christ may dwell.

**We are not here by chance.**

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,  
and they follow me;  
and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish;  
and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

**Jesus, we are the sheep of your pasture.**

**You have chosen us. We have chosen you.**

**We are not here by chance. Amen**

**\*Postlude**

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**Worship Notes: God-Consciousness: Service Prayers for Easter 4** was written and arranged by the Rev. Marilyn Kennedy Levine, a United Church of Christ pastor in the Northern Plains Conference

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**Every Sunday at 10:30**

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/bzioh0xyyacgg5fmjnoi>

**Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our YouTube channel:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9\\_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w)

You can get to the link on our homepage at [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)

**Prayer List** - Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Jaci Clayton, Raleigh Jenkins (brother of Donna Logee), Gail Ellam, Al Peden, Barbara Lee (sister of Milt Crutchley), Tina Baker, Douglas Pyles (brother of Barbara Rhoads), Alyce Schmid (sister of Dennie Schmid), Lynn Severn family (friends of the Ken Hoffmann family), Dawn Williams (mother of Starr Schaeberle), Mary Hoffmann (sister in law of Ken Hoffmann), Pat Thomas (neighbor of Ken and Anne Hoffmann), Lois Wilson (Dan Smith's Aunt), Jerry Cassell (brother of Ave Barr), Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Roger Williams (father of Starr Schaeberle), Mary Remsberg, Faith Kline (friend of the Schaeberle family), Susan Matesa (friend of Dan Smith & Austin Byrd), Larry Maples, Dustin Chapman (friend of Catie, Alex & Sean), Jane Doll, Susan McCauley (niece of Jack Stush), Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Terry Smiley (uncle of Scott Smiley), Shawn Smiley (cousin of Scott Smiley), Joe Jahoda (Kim Jahoda's dad), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Frank Tymczyszyn (brother in law of Nancy Jones), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser).

Al Peden  
7509 Oakmont Drive  
Frederick, MD 21702

Alyce Schmid  
104 Charleston Lane  
Frederick MD 21702

We ask you to remember all of those currently serving in the Armed Forces. Your prayers and cards are welcomed and appreciated by those on our prayer list.

**Worship Next Week: Sunday, May 10 Fifth Sunday of Easter**

[Ctrl + Click HERE to join worship next Sunday](#) at 10:30 a.m.

**Updated Directory Available:** Now it is even more important to connect with members via phone call or email message. If you want an updated directory, please contact the church office: [aaguilar@erucc.org](mailto:aaguilar@erucc.org) or 301-662-2762. One will be emailed to you (or snail mail).

If you or someone in your family is in need of a call, a pick me up, anything, please contact the church office at 301-662-2762 or via email at [bkdaniel@erucc.org](mailto:bkdaniel@erucc.org)

**Join Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/608416206>**

Each Monday, we will send out a Bible study sheet. The passage will be one of the lessons from the previous Sunday's scripture readings. You are invited to use the material for your own personal reflection and, if you wish, join a Zoom Call on Tuesdays at 11:00 am to discuss the passage with others.

If you wish to be added to this Bible Study mailing, please let Amy know: [aaguilar@erucc.org](mailto:aaguilar@erucc.org)

**Everyone** is invited to join Pastor Daniel for a check-in **each day at noon:**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/683955819> If you need to know how to set up Zoom, contact the office and we will attempt to walk you through the process.

**Youth** are invited to join Pastor Daniel for a Zoom Call **every Wednesday** at 4:00 pm:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/405187542>

**Stay Connected and Get Informed!**

There are many ways to receive information about what is happening at church each week. The weekly bulletin, the weekly informational email, and our monthly newsletter, The Trinity Chimes, Facebook, and Instagram. (@eruccfred

**Thursday Thoughts**-A weekly emailed message that shares updates, highlights the upcoming service's scripture and focus, and includes announcements about Sunday School. To sign up to receive Thursday Thoughts, contact Amy Aguilar at 301-662-2762 or [aaguilar@erucc.org](mailto:aaguilar@erucc.org) and share your preferred email address.

**Trinity Chimes**—ERUCC's monthly newsletter. A more in-depth look on what's happening with the congregation. How we're reaching out, learning and volunteer opportunities, member and social program updates. Receive Trinity Chimes by email! Contact Amy Aguilar at 301-662-2762 or [aaguilar@erucc.org](mailto:aaguilar@erucc.org) to request to be added. (Paper copies also available upon request.)

**Want to Build Your Business?**

From time to time we have to search for a skilled professional to provide a service to us in our home or business. Whether we're seeking an insurance agent, electrician, cosmetologist, landscaper, realtor, florist or any other expert, it always helps to enlist the services of someone we know. Yet sometimes we don't know where to start or how to go about locating someone we can trust to deliver quality workmanship.

ERUCC is going to begin a networking profile of members who want to build their business and help our community. If you have a talent or a trade, and want to offer it to others, why not be a part of this new initiative? There is no need to offer discounts or free services (although it may help). Our goal is to create a directory that members can turn to when a need arises.

We'd like to have a diverse listing of at least 15-20 options to start, and then watch it grow. There will be no limit as to the number of similar businesses – we each have our own unique talents and abilities.

If you want to be included in this guide, give a brief description of what you offer and your contact details to Darryl Glick or e-mail him at [darryl.glick@gmail.com](mailto:darryl.glick@gmail.com)

**Consider continuing your support of ERUCC on-line.** You can set up automatic giving via your bank, or use this handy link from our website: <https://erucc.org/give-your-money/>.

When we arrived to the year 2020, we knew we had a lot to celebrate. Our church had reached the remarkable milestone of being a House of Worship in the Frederick community for 275 years. In those years, the church had faced many hurdles. While some were higher and some were lower, we managed to surmount all of those hurdles and remain a beacon of hope and joy for those who follow Jesus.

Now we find ourselves facing new challenges. The life of the church will go on, but for the immediate future that life will be different. The church staff is continuing to work on our various areas of expertise: planning for worship, creating new means for education and fellowship, maintaining our buildings, and communicating with all of you. While we are doing our best to minimize our expenses, such as suspending our building cleaning contract and turning off the furnaces for this season, there will continue to be expenses that we cannot change.

We want to care for ourselves and also continue to support our neighbors in need throughout the community and the world.

As you are able, we ask that you continue to support the church. You can send us a handwritten check through the mail, you can use the options at your bank to create an online check, or you can use the PayPal or VANCO links on our web page. Counting teams will periodically work to organize a bank deposit just as they do routinely during normal times

We know that these are uncertain times, so be thoughtful in all that you do. If your financial situation is stable, please consider your church.

Cliff Barr  
Allen Flora

**ERUCC VIRTUAL BOOK GROUP: May 26 at 7 p.m. : *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi**

*Homegoing* is a novel "following the parallel paths of two half sisters born into two different villages in 18th century Ghana and the paths of their descendants through 8 generations: from the Gold Coast, to Mississippi plantations, through the Civil War, to Jazz Age Harlem." "It illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed--and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation."

**June 23** Soul of a Thief by Steven Hartov

**July 28** Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City

**Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church**

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor (bkdaniel@erucc.org)

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus (faw500@msn.com)

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry (ksexton@erucc.org)

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

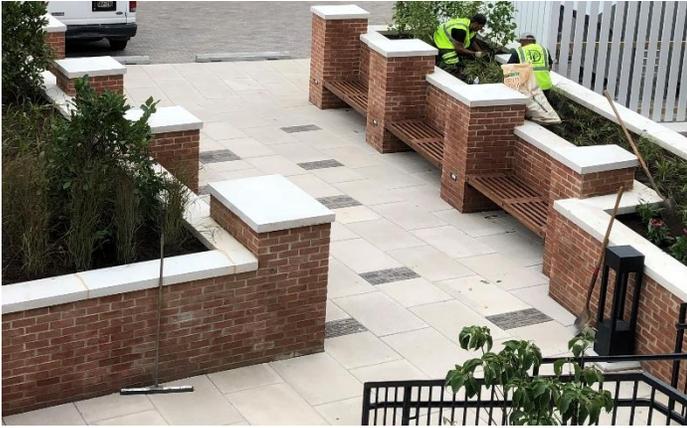
Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Amy Aguilar, Office Administrator (erucc@erucc.org) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

**15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • (ph) 301-662-2762 • [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)**



# Etch your name in history



In 1745, ERUCC's elders laid the foundation for our church. Now you can lend your name to its future with the purchase of a brick paver to be located on the outdoor plaza.

The handsome brick pavers are available in three sizes. Their pricing, along with the total

number of lines and characters (which includes spacing and punctuation) are as follows:

12" x 12" – 5 lines, 15 spaces each, \$850

8" x 8" – 4 lines, 15 spaces each, \$500

4" x 8" – 3 lines, 15 spaces each, \$250

## **Orders must be placed by May 10, 2020.**

Purchases can be made online at [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org), with the submission of this form, or by calling Amy, our administrator, at 301-662-2762.

### Payment Method

- Check made payable to ERUCC  
 Credit Card     Visa     Mastercard

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or email: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code (3 digit code on back of card): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to : ERUCC | 15 West Church Street | Frederick, MD 21701.  
Call the office for the Brick Guidelines sheet: 301-662-2762.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

Psalm 23

### Powerful Witness

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters.  
He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me in the  
presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
My cup runs over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
Forever.

The Eternal is my shepherd, He cares for me  
always.  
He provides me rest in rich, green fields  
beside streams of refreshing water.  
He soothes my fears;  
He makes me whole again,  
steering me off worn, hard paths  
to roads where truth and righteousness  
echo His name.  
Even in the unending shadows of death's  
darkness,  
I am not overcome by fear.  
Because You are with me in those dark  
moments,  
near with Your protection and guidance,  
I am comforted.  
You spread out a table before me,  
provisions in the midst of attack from  
my enemies;  
You care for all my needs, anointing my head  
with soothing, fragrant oil,  
filling my cup again and again with  
Your grace.  
Certainly Your faithful protection and loving  
provision will pursue me  
where I go, always, everywhere.  
I will always be with the Eternal,  
in Your house forever.

Here are two versions of the familiar 23rd Psalm – one the King James version and one from a newer translation called *The Voice* (Ecclesia Bible Society. Published Apr 9, 2012). Which version speaks to you today?



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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