



Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.



For Children: Please feel free to attend services with your children. For the safety of the children, staff and volunteers ERUCC will not be providing childcare during services until further notice. Your children are welcome to bring their own quiet activities, no materials will be provided. Please take ALL personal items with you after the service.

We have removed all items from the pew racks for your safety. Music selections will be provided within this bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary, Thank you.

We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org .
Donate online by scanning this code:

or you may use our new texting donation system. Send a donation amount to 301-804-2933 . You will receive a text back within minutes with a link. Click the secure link and provide your method of payment and a receipt will be sent to you! Or, download the GivePlus Church application and make your donation via the app.



Thank you.



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)

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Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director
Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

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EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m.

Greetings and Announcements

Choral Opening *Welcome*

- M. A. Miller,
ERUCC Singers

*Call to Worship

Christ has risen,

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

We gather to worship the risen Christ,
Conqueror of death.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

We lift up praise to the risen Christ,
Redeemer of all life.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

We give thanks to the risen Christ,
Giver of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ has risen,

Christ is risen indeed!

*Opening Prayer

Resurrected Christ,

the one who has overcome death and doors alike,

we recognize that any gathering of believers is sacred.

Fill this space with your abundant joy and send out any hint of scarcity.

God, we know that you meet us exactly where we are.

We thank you for coming to us in the way that we need.

When our faith is shaky, and we say, "unless I see..."

you come to us with outstretched hands.

Hands and sides which bear the marks of your sacrifice for us.

You give us unconditional love, unwavering presence, and abundant grace.

In return, we give you faith that is not perfect but enmeshed with our humanity. And even though this can never be enough, you take it gladly.

We offer you all that we have to give; take our lives, our finances, our time, our talents. May we not keep anything behind closed doors from you. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *Halleluja*

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Traditional

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Chords: A, E, A, D, Bm, E

Musical notation for the second line of the hymn. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

Chords: A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4 E7, A

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

We confess that there are times when we are overcome by fear;

times when our faith fails,

times when we close ourselves off to you.

times when we ignore the needs of others.

Lord, forgive us.

When shadows surrounds us,

show us the radiant power of your light.

When we hold on to our worldly possessions with

tight fists,

help us to use our resources for the glory of your realm.

When our differences threaten to divide us,

draw us together in the unity of your perfect love.

Christ, forgive us.

We grieve the ways in which we have caused pain;

the ways in which we have fallen short,

the ways in which we have turned away from the suffering in our world.

Spirit, forgive us. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Our words of confession are released into the air, and in the act of speaking them aloud, we have been set free.

In the stillness, God whispers "Take heart; you are forgiven, cleansed of all unrighteousness."

Praise God, in whose fullness we receive grace upon grace.

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.

Anthem Canon of Grace

*- L.R. Lamb
ERUCC Handbells*

The Scripture

Acts 4: 32-35

John 20:19-31

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Offering of Tithes , Gifts and Lives to Christ's Service

Anthem He Is Lord

*- Anonymous
ERUCC Singers*

***Closing Hymn** *Amen, Amen*

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See next page*

* Benediction

May your lives reveal the Resurrection to the world,
and be a living testimony of the love of Christ.

May you walk in the overwhelming abundance of God's provision.

May you live joyfully and love fully with your heart and soul.

Go now in the peace and presence of the Resurrected Christ.

Amen.

*Postlude



Amen, Amen

African-American spiritual

Mark 3:7-10; Luke 2:7, 46-47; Rom. 6:6-10

Congregation/choir

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men,

Solo

1 O see the lit-tle ba-by ly-ing in a man-ger
2 See Je-sus in the tem-ple talk-ing to the el-ders;
3 See Je-sus at the sea-shore preach-ing to the peo-ple,
4 See Je-sus on the cross bear-ing all my sins
5 Yes, Je-sus died to save us, rose on Eas-ter morn-ing,
6 We're sing-ing Al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is my Sav-ior,

(Congregation/choir)

a - men! A - men,

on Christ - mas morn-ing. (2 See)
how they all mar - veled! (3 See)
— heal-ing all the sick ones! (4 See)
in bit - ter ag - o-ny! (5 Yes,)
and lives for - ev - er! (6 We're)
who lives for - ev - er!

a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men!



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/bzloh0xyyacgq5fmjnoi>

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

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w

You can get to the link on our homepage at www.erucc.org

Worship Notes: Today's prayers are from Seasons of the Spirit.

The flowers on the altar this morning are placed by Rob McGuire and Alex Martinez in honor of their parents.

The **yellow rose bud** on the stand is in honor of those currently serving in the military by Jack Day and Peter Brehm.

Worship Next Week: April 18

April 18 Love Means Showing Up Luke 24:36b–48 "Peace be with you."

Here it is again – another story like last week from John's gospel (John 20:19–31) when Jesus encounters the disciples after the Resurrection and greets them with a word of peace. This encounter, however, doesn't seem to calm the disciples but stirs them up. When does being a Christ-like peace bearer stir things up?

Do some reading on the Internet about peace bearers like Martin Luther King, Jr. or organizations that protest against nuclear armament. Explore your own sense of call to being a peace bearer.

NEXT WEEK: Earth Day Education and Celebration, Sunday April 18, 1-3 pm

- Visit our art gallery in the lobby
- Make and take a recycled materials art project
- Learn about the effects of plastic pollution on the oceans and all life
- Ask questions about what you can and cannot recycle
- Get tips on recycling all kinds of stuff that doesn't go in the blue bin
- Enjoy seeing other people (masked and socially distanced of course)

Wild-Scaping with Native Plants Webinar, Sunday April 18, 7 pm

Kerry Wixted from the state Department of Natural Resources will share her top 10 native plant recommendations for the Piedmont region of Maryland, which includes Frederick County. The selections are based in part on ease of growth and wildlife value.

Planting native plants improves ecosystem biodiversity and reduces watering needs and the use of herbicides and pesticides. We can save money and time by planting native species while caring for earth at the same time. This webinar is presented by the Multi-Faith Alliance of Climate Stewards of Frederick County and Envision Frederick.

To register go to https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ksYq_2Y9Q8K-zEjrVaV-jQ

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 11, 2021

John 20:19-31

Marks of Faith

For years, maybe even decades, the church has wrestled with how to both retain the intimacy of in-person worship and also to embrace the technological changes in communication that are burgeoning in every other aspect of modern life.

When the church, along with the rest of society, was placed under quarantine, the decision was made for us. As communities of faith, we had to adapt some technological ways of staying in community in order to continue to worship with one another.

While many local churches moved their worship services online, the national United Church of Christ pivoted and moved online, too.

"Thursdays for the Soul" and "Tuesdays for Nurture" are offerings from the United Church of Christ to unite, uplift and equip the Church for such a time as this. These videos are streamed live and are available to rewatch and share at: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6VgfHt6zEy7yDgdSE-fLLYEVaNBM2943>

These online offerings have opened church-wide conversations ranging from the decidedly practical to the unapologetically philosophical. They offer guidance for churches and church leaders seeking information about how to be church in these challenging times, along with conversations with a variety of individuals at the forefront of faith and social justice movements.

One of the gifts of these digital days is that if you missed the offerings at "Thursdays for the Soul" or "Tuesdays for Nurture" the first time around, they are still available to you now. You can find them by entering the above url or searching for *Worship and Care for the Entire Church Webinars* on YouTube.



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

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