



Resurrection

JOY

Welcome to Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Thank you for worshiping with us at Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC) this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

If you are a guest, please visit us at the Welcome Table in the sanctuary lobby. We would love to meet and learn more about you and are available to answer your questions about ERUCC. Please also feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. We encourage you to join us for in the Community Room for Fellowship after the worship service for casual conversation and connection over light refreshments.

ERUCC is an Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ. We welcome into the full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff for ages 0-4. A deacon or greeter can guide you to the nursery. Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table and a children's table is available for quiet activities at the front of the sanctuary.

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.

Restrooms, accessible and equipped with changing stations, are located on the 2nd floor, below the sanctuary, and on the 1st floor, outside the Community Room. Single-occupant, all-gender, accessible restrooms are located outside the North and Flora Rooms on the 2nd floor.

There is more information about our church in this bulletin and on our website: www.erucc.org.

Mission Statement of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

We, the members of this congregation, seek to celebrate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, by nurturing spiritual growth through worship, study and prayer; by caring for one another as God cares for us; and by proclaiming God's love for all people as we work to help our neighbors near and far.

We commit ourselves to develop and implement specific programs to fulfill our mission.

15 WEST CHURCH STREET, FREDERICK, MD 21701
(301) 662-2762 • erucc@erucc.org • www.erucc.org



EVANGELICAL REFORMED
United Church of Christ
– An Open and Affirming Congregation –



April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

10:30 AM



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

PRELUDE

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

Cathy Fronck, trumpet; Jeff Baker, trombone
tune – LLANFAIR, arr. J. Biery

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE

Adante

– Mozart, arr. L. Smith

THRESHOLD MOMENT

In the Direction of Hope

Katie Zander
– written by The Rev. Sarah A. Speed

I am on my way.
Wait for me in the garden;
I will be there soon.

I'm not the fastest runner,
Lord knows that,
but these legs are moving.

I suppose I could blame my weary spirit for the slow speed.
I could blame the grief I've shoved into my pockets and
laid around my neck.
I could blame my own hesitation to hope,
a hesitation that clings like mud.

But I don't know that Jesus cares about my speed.
So tell God when you see them—
I am on my way.
Wait for me in the garden.
I will be there soon.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

My dear friends, we have known grief. We have known loss.

We have known the long road, tired and winding.

We have whispered prayers on bended knees.

We have stared at the sky, empty of stars.

But today—

today we know hope.

Today we know life.

Today we know the sound of Alleluias.

Today we know that death does not have the last word.

Today we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

It is Easter.

May hope find you.

And may you know, deep in your bones, that today is a new day.

Alleluia! Amen.

*HYMN OF ADORATION

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

#233

tune – EASTER HYMN, arr. S. Drummond Wolff

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Let the Victors people sing, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting, Alleluia!

Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!

God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like Christ, like him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

***OPENING PRAYER**

**God of Alleluias and empty tombs,
God of garden plots and good news, it is Easter.**

It is finally Easter.

**In a world full of grief and heartache,
in a world full of violence and oppression,**

in a world full of loss and separation,

we long for this day because Easter sings a different song.

Easter sings a song of hope. Easter sings a song of new life.

**Easter sings a song of love that makes you want to jump out of your chair
and run barefoot to the tomb.**

Easter smells of fresh flowers and baked bread.

It sounds like trumpets and laughter.

It feels like a crowded table and a warm hug.

Yes, Easter sings a different song.

So in a world full of grief, help us to cling to Easter's hope.

In a world full of grief, help us hear this story of good news.

**In a world full of grief, we're ready to jump out of our chairs
and run barefoot to the tomb.**

With hope we pray, with hope we listen, amen.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

In the Gospel of Luke, the women come to the tomb, and to their surprise, instead of finding Jesus, they find angels. The angels tell the women, "Jesus is not here," and when that answer is met with confusion, the angels say, "Remember what he told you." *Remember*. It's one of the words Jesus used at his last supper, and it's one of the first words we hear at the empty tomb. *Remember*.

This call to remember is why we need the prayer of confession and these words of forgiveness every single week. It's not enough to hear of God's grace once. We need to hear it over and over again, week after week. We need to be reminded that God's grace and mercy will never run out.

So friends, let us run to God like the women ran to the tomb. Let us tell the truth of our lives so that once again we can be reminded that our God is a God of grace, mercy, and love. Let us pray so that we can remember. Join me in the prayer of confession:

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The stone is rolled away!

We assume it is a mistake.

The angels say, “He is not here!”

We assume their news is fake.

The women tell the story,

but we do not want to hear it.

Peter runs to the tomb,

but we do not understand.

Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb
is nothing more than a prank.

**Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths
and still holding tight to death.**

Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope
when you are alive and well in the world.

Teach us to see what you see.

Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The angels tell the women, “Remember what Jesus told you.”

So, church, remember this:

You are seen.

You are forgiven.

You are held in God’s grace.

All of this is true.

Grace and mercy abound for you.

Amen!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Children, youth, and all who wish to join them are invited to come forward for a special message.

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.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children of all ages are invited to participate in the service today. A book nook with children's programs, books, crayons, and activities is in the rear of the sanctuary and a wiggle space is available in the front of the sanctuary near the baptismal font.

Junior Church for children ages 5 through 5th grade will resume next Sunday.

THE SCRIPTURES

John Shillingburg

Luke 24:1-12 NT page 90

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

MORNING PRAYERS

OFFERING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND LIVES TO CHRIST'S SERVICE

As resurrection people, every moment offers us an opportunity to divest from the power of death and invest in the power of new life.

How are you being called in this moment to use whatever resources you have to build up a new world of flourishing for all?

You are invited to bring your life-affirming, resurrecting intentions to this offering so that together we might roll away every stone of injustice, oppression, and harm until all know the true power of Love.

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 to our church's ministries and programs. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts to share God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshiping with us.

If you wish to give, you can give online at www.erucc.org, by placing your gift in the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary before or after the service, or by scanning the QR code to give from your phone.



OFFERTORY

Easter Chorale and Alleluia

Senior Choir
– J. Purifoy

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

To the witness of new life emerging, God open us.

To the work of new world building, God commit us.

To the power of love persisting, God dedicate us.

For the calling of faith rising up, God equip us. Amen.

– SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

On that first Easter morning when the women discovered the empty tomb,
they told the disciples what they'd found.

When Peter heard the news, he ran to the garden.

He left the grief of the upper room, looking for a reason to hope.

Friends, maybe you are like Peter, running to this Table,
hungry and longing for a taste of good news.

Maybe you are like the other disciples,
hanging back, arms crossed, tentative and unsure.

Or maybe you are somewhere in between it all.

No matter where you stand and what you feel, this Table is for you.

The one who walked this earth, healed the sick, welcomed the children, and
loved the outcast, welcomes you to this Table.

So, come.

Bring your grief. Bring your questions. Bring your hope.

Bring the messy middle of your life.

Bring your faith and your dreams.

Bring it all.

For God meets us exactly where we are,
smack-dab in the middle, with nothing but love.

So come. This Table is for you.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God of yesterday, tomorrow, and right now,
we are full of Alleluias.**

**Holy God, we are full of Alleluias
because this morning the sun rose once again.**

This morning, we heard how the stone was rolled away.

**This morning we dare to believe that life is stronger than death
and love is stronger than evil.**

So today, we are full of Alleluias. Today we are full of hope.

However, we know that not every day feels like today.

Just two days ago, we walked the path to the cross.

Just two days ago, we remembered the violence humanity is capable of.

**Just two days ago, we remembered the cruelty that this world knows all
too well.**

**So on this hopeful day, as well as on those grief-filled days,
we ask that you would meet us here.**

Meet us in this sanctuary.

Meet us in this community.

Meet us at this Table.

Pour out your Spirit on this bread and cup.

**Roll back the stone, again and again,
as many times as it takes for us to see you.**

**Call us by name, again and again,
as many times as it takes for us to hear you.**

Pull us from the trenches of our grief, and give us reason to hope.

**As you do, we will keep singing your praises,
we will come back to this Table,
we will continue to bring you our hope, our grief,
and everything in between.**

Full of Alleluias, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night Jesus was betrayed, the Light of the World took bread and blessed it. Then he thanked God for it and broke it, saying:

“This is my body which is broken for you. Whenever you eat it, remember me.”

And likewise at the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and thanked God for it. Pouring out the red wine, he said:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you. When you drink this cup ever after this night, remember me.”

Now, let us come to receive the bread and the cup.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

All who desire the Sacrament, including children, are invited to come forward at the direction of the deacons to one of two locations at the front of the sanctuary, where you will be served the bread and the cup. The cup contains grape juice (apple juice is provided in the center of each tray) and all bread is gluten-free. Please partake of the elements as they are given to you, then give the empty cup to the nearby steward before returning to your seat by the side aisle. If you want to receive the elements in the pew for any reason, please notify a deacon.

After all have received the bread and the cup:

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

A BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE

May the presence of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit keep and preserve you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**God of the mountain, the valley, and every step in between,
may this meal be a fresh start.**

**May this moment, where all are fed, and all are welcomed,
be the start of something new.**

**Show us how to carry the love we experience here from the walls of this
church into the world we encounter in the days ahead.**

**Show us how to leave breadcrumbs of good news along our path and
everywhere in between.**

With deep hope we pray, amen.

***HYMN**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven tune – HYFRYDOL, arr. L. Larson

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;

Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.

Jesus on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation bled;

But the crucified Redeemer now is risen from the dead!

Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born;

Glorious life, and life immortal on this holy Easter morn;

Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by God's liberating deed;

Now the Christ with us abiding to eternal life shall lead.

Christ is risen, we are risen; shed upon us heavenly grace,

Rain and dew, and gleams of glory from the brightness of your face;

That we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be,

And by angel hands be gathered, and be yours eternally.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to the God of joy;

Alleluia to the Savior who came death's bonds to destroy;

Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity;

Alleluia! Alleluia! To the Triune Majesty.

*BENEDICTION

As you leave this place,
may you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God,
and therefore, you contain multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.
God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys,
and everywhere in between.
Believe that good news, and go in peace. **Amen.**

During the postlude, please remain seated, letting the music flow over you as a closing blessing.

ALLELUIAS

Hallelujah, Amen

Senior Choir
– G. G. Wagner

POSTLUDE

Marche Joyeuse

Cathy Fronck, trumpet; Jeff Baker, trombone
– J. Head, arr. S. Mitchell-Wallace



**We thank Cathy Fronck, trumpet, and Jeffrey Baker, trombone,
for participating in our Easter celebration!**

Worship Notes: Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. The Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Dedication was written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema, who serves as Join the Movement toward Racial Justice Curator with UCC National Ministries.

Please join us for **Fellowship** with light refreshments and time for casual conversation after worship in our Community Room (1st Floor).

The flowers on the altar this morning are placed in memory of Bobby L. York, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, by the York family. In the promise of the Resurrection, we rejoice that love is stronger than death, and celebrate his life, which continues to bloom in our hearts.

The yellow rose is presented in honor of veterans by Peter Brehm and Jack Day.

Attendance Last Sunday: 13 at 8:30 AM, 186 at 10:30 AM, and 53 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:

<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>

Serving Today: April 20

Deacons: Harrison Fisher, Kyle Miller
Elder: Jeanellen Kallevang
Acolyte: Willa
Scripture Reader: John Shillingburg
Greeters: Rachel Ford, Tom Ford, Ave Barr
Cliff Barr, Felecia Bishop
Welcome Table: Sue Pinner
Lobby Attendant: Cliff Barr
Audio/Visual: Larry Martin, Kelly Esslinger
David Howard
Nursery: Meredith Neely
Fellowship: Karen Justice, Marj Berkheimer
Peter Brehm, Felecia Bishop
Rob McGuire, Alex Martinez
Communion: Rebecca Shillingburg
John Shillingburg
Communion Clergy: Rev. Shelley Weakly
Rev. Rob Peters

Serving Next Week: April 27

Jim Brittain, Angela Brittain
Tyler L. York
Vivian
Youth
Niel Jefferson, Kath Jefferson
Barbara Barry
Julie Clark
Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Schaeberle
David Howard
Stephanie Fisher
Linda Coyle, Tommie Bradshaw
Shelley Weakly, Eric Weakly
Collen Baldree, Chuck Baldree

Next Sunday: April 27 – Second Sunday of Easter | Youth Sunday

ERUCC Youth will be leading worship this morning.

Spirit will share in music leadership, and Young Spirit, the Chancel Handbell Choir, and the Cambridge Handbell Choir will offer special music.

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

In Memory of

- Our parents and siblings by Tom and Rachel Ford
- Loved Ones by Don and Emogene Wyand
- Donald F. Baxter, Jr. by Kathy Gelles-baxter
- My parents, Donald and Shirley Baker, by Audrey Rayfield
- Loved Ones by Audrey Rayfield
- My son, Todd Stush, by Jack Stush
- My parents, John and Anna Stush, by Jack Stush
- My husband, Jack, by Patti Patterson
- Bob and Pat Armitage by The Coyle Family
- Rita and John Coyle by The Coyle Family
- John and Martha Morris by Robert and Suzanne Morris
- Herman and Mildred Smith by Robert and Suzanne Morris
- Our grandmothers, Connie Smith and Merriel Coon, by The Coen Family
- Kathleen and Joe Clancy by Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
- Maggie and Bruce Jefferson by Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
- Bobby L. York by The York Family
- Roger and Dawn Williams by Jeff and Starr Schaeberle
- Dale Schaeberle and John Schaeberle by Jeff and Starr Schaeberle
- My husband, Bill Stahler, by Peg Stahler
- My Granddaughter, Liz Coffey, by Peg Stahler
- Martha & Bob Menchey by Marj Menchey Berkheimer and Sando Menchey Bernstein
- Betty McShea by Judy McShea
- Jack McShea by Judy McShea
- My husband, Orvis Staley, from his wife, Mary, and children and grandchildren
- My parents, Charles and Erma Routzahn and my family by their daughter, Mary Staley and grandchildren

EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

In Honor of ...

- Our clergy and choir, who relentlessly serve so beautifully, by Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
- Janet R. York by The York Family
- Brian and Stephanie York by The York Family
- All LGBTQIA+ people and supporters ... keep up the hope and never give up the fight by Darryl Glick and Mark Ulrich

Placed by ...

- Cindy Smith and Cindy Duranko in memory of our family saints
- The Black Family



PRAYER LIST

We invite you to hold the following people in your prayers this week. Though we may not know the specifics of their needs, God does, and our prayers are a meaningful way to surround them with love and support.

ERUCC seeks permission before adding a name to this list or in worship announcements. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

Basil Davis
Anne Hoffmann
Christy Kehlbeck (friend of Hollie Mercier)
John Howard (brother of David Howard)
Doris Esslinger
Sandra Trout
Charlie Van Eman (son of friends of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson)
Trish Coffey
Kathy Johnson
Mary Staley
Mike Robertson (friend of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson)
Pat Condo
Wells Condo
The Murray/Lennox/Cable Family
Greg Alley
Dave Alley
Kitty Bradley
Beanie Cornell
Milt Crutchley

Raymond Slifer (father of Robin A. Brady-Slifer)
Susan Bonhag (friend of the Mercier family)
Tom Frazier
Pauline Marendt
Kat Weedon (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Kayla Merry (niece of Kim Sexton)
Carol Spera (mother of Mark Ulrich)
Charlotte Blue and Family (friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Emogene Wyand
Bob Pinner
Delmar Speak
Philip Hill (father of Colleen Baldree)
Tanya Pearre (sister of Colleen Baldree)
Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)
Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt and Bettie Joe Crutchley)

Lee Thomas
Joan Thomas (mother of Dan Smith's friend)
Greg Rhoads
Marcia Eisenstein
Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)
Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)
Jeannette Johnson
Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)
Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley)
Marcy Channell (daughter of Jo Ann Fritz)
Paige Coffey
Fran Wenner
Bonnie Devilbiss
Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)
Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)
Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)

PASTORAL CARE

ERUCC wants to be there for you when you're experiencing an illness, hospitalization, or other life event for which you or someone you love may need a visit.

Members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to regular Sunday morning services will receive visits (and communion) from Rev. Dr. Morgan. Our Faithful Friends Team also makes visits, calls, and sends care cards.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or erucc@erucc.org.

Christian Education: Spiritual Life, Learning, and Practices

BIBLE STUDIES for ADULTS

SUNDAY MORNING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 9:00 – 10:15 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERSunstudy
Meeting ID: 893 8670 5888
Passcode: 327128

**The Sunday morning class will not meet on Easter Sunday, April 20.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

An Altar in the World by Barbara Brown Taylor
with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 11:00 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERTuesday
Meeting ID: 875 1423 3398
Passcode: 973365

WEDNESDAY EVENING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Rev. John Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 7:00 PM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERwedstudy
Meeting ID: 892 1764 4500
Passcode: 848933

GENTLE YOGA

Tuesdays

Trinity Chapel, 7:00 PM

Experience tranquility and wellness in this Gentle Yoga Class. Led by experienced Yogamour instructors, this nurturing practice focuses on gentle postures, mindful breathing, and deep relaxation techniques. Participants of all levels are welcome.

Each drop-in class is \$10. Questions? Contact Renae, rdkline15@gmail.com.

To access the yoga classroom in Trinity Chapel, walk through the gate to the left of the building, down the walkway to the side door, and into the hallway leading to the classroom.

SACRED CONVERSATIONS ABOUT LIFE TRANSITIONS

Tuesday, April 29

Flora Room, 2:00 PM

Join us for our next monthly gathering where we will share stories and challenges related to life's changes, body limitations, and shifts in dependency. This is a sacred space to listen, pray, and connect as we navigate these transitions. Pastor Kirstin and Ave Barr will lead us in this time of holy sharing, emphasizing the importance of leaning on each other and recognizing that we are not alone in our journeys.

Contact Ave Barr, Linda Coyle, or Pastor Kirstin with questions.

Activities and Events

PASTORAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY, APRIL 21

CHAT WITH THE TRANSITION TEAM

Friday, April 25

ERUCC members are invited to connect and "Chat with the Transition Team:"

Friday, April 25, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

hosted at the home of Owen and Tyler York

9314 Hillsborough Drive

Frederick (Spring Ridge area)

RSVP by email to tyork@erucc.org.



INQUIRERS' CLASSES

Sunday, April 27 and Sunday, May 11

Flora Room and Zoom, 9:30 AM

Interested in learning more about ERUCC and what it means to be part of our community of faith? We warmly invite you to join us for our two-part **Inquirers' Class** — a time to connect, ask questions, and explore what membership at ERUCC looks like.

If you're seeking a church where...

- You don't have to check your mind at the door
- God's love embraces *every* person — no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey
- Faith engages with the real world — offering meaning, hope, and purpose
- You and your family can grow spiritually in an open, affirming, and thoughtful community

.... then we'd love to get to know you.

At our Inquirer's Class, you'll meet our pastors and church members, hear more about our values, beliefs, and history, and learn about the United Church of Christ — our wider church family.

Who should come? Anyone curious about ERUCC, whether you're brand new or have been worshiping with us for a while, but haven't taken the step of membership. ERUCC members looking for a refresher or who simply want to be part of meeting and welcoming others into our church community are also welcome.



To participate by Zoom, please **register in advance:** bit.ly/ERinq0427

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Questions? Contact the church office at erucc@erucc.org or (301) 662-2762.

ERUCC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



ERUCC is fortunate to have several scholarship programs available to our members as they seek educational opportunities to develop knowledge and skills in the realization of their full potential. These scholarships are gifts to church members for post-secondary undergraduate education and are awarded by the Scholarship Committee. The awards are based on the quality of the candidate's plan for use of the funds, the ability and promise of the applicant, and the need for financial assistance. The aid may continue for subsequent years after an interview with the Scholarship Committee, submission of intent to reapply, and a transcript of grades for the current year.

All application materials must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee through the Church Office by the **April 30 deadline**.

Request an application for new or renewing applicants by email: erucc@erucc.org.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 4

Community Room / Zoom, ~12:00 PM

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, May 4, in the Community Room. Lunch will be served immediately following worship. We will elect new elders, deacons, and committee chairs. Members and friends of the congregation may also participate via Zoom.

To participate by Zoom, please **register in advance**: bit.ly/ERmtg0504



After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

To be elected by the Congregation:

Elder for first 3-year term

Susan Kulp

Elder for first elected 3-year term

Ave Barr

(currently appointed as Elder after the position was vacated by resignation)

Deacon for second 2-year term

Jim Brittain

Deacon for second 2-year term

Robin A. Brady-Slifer

Deacon for second 2-year term

Robin L. Brady-Slifer

Deacon for first 2-year term

Tommie Bradshaw

Deacon for first 2-year term

Mark Ulrich

Finance Chair for first 2-year term

Peter Brehm

Stewardship/Generosity Chair for first additional 1-year term

Julie Clark

Christian Education Chair for first 2-year term

Holly Davis

Worship Chair for first additional 1-year term

Rebecca Shillingburg

Member-at-Large for first additional 1-year term

Larry Martin

Children, Youth, & Families

****Children and Youth Sunday School and Music Activities will not meet on Easter Sunday.**

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children should be checked in by one of their grown-ups at the Check-In Station in the Kieffer Lobby before class.

Pre-K – 2nd Grade

Liz Coffey Room, 9:15 – 10:00 AM

3rd – 5th Grade

Thomas Room, 9:15 – 10:00 AM

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Trinity Chapel, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Youth Sunday School, with Middle and High School classes, meets in Trinity Chapel, 10 West Church Street. Enter through the side door behind the iron gate on the left side of the building. Always use the crosswalk. Youth will return as a group to the Kieffer Lobby at 10:15 AM.

****On Youth Sunday, April 27, youth should meet Pastor Kristin in Trinity Chapel at 9:15 AM.**

CHILDREN'S MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Liz Coffey Room, 10:00 – 10:20 AM

This music group for children in Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to participate in rehearsals each Sunday morning following Sunday School from 10:00–10:20 AM in the Liz Coffey Room.

YOUNG SPIRIT REHEARSAL

rehearses the 1st and 3rd Sundays
dismisses from 10:30 AM worship service

Rehearsals are held after the Thought for the Day on the first and third Sundays of each month and wrap up by 11:30 AM so you can rejoin your family in the sanctuary. No experience needed—just enthusiasm! Young Spirit Director: Trish Coffey

JUNIOR CHURCH

2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays
dismisses from 10:30 AM worship service

Junior Church is a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities for children ages five through 5th grade. Children begin 10:30 AM worship with their families and are dismissed to Junior Church after the Thought for the Day. On the first Sunday of each month, children participate in worship and communion with their families.

Ministers, Staff, & Lay Leaders of Evangelical Reformed UCC

MINISTERS AND STAFF

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan ~ *Intentional Interim Senior Pastor* ~ mmorgan@erucc.org

Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ ksrhoads@erucc.org

Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music*

Tyler L. York ~ *Executive Church Administrator* ~ tyork@erucc.org

Jaci Clayton ~ *Facilities Manager* ~ jclayton@erucc.org

Tricia Coffey ~ *Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director*

Kelly Esslinger ~ *Assistant Director for Bell Choirs & Children's Music*

Jenna Duranko ~ *Social Media Assistant*

Ashley Murphy ~ *Nursery Attendant*

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

CONSISTORY

Peter Brehm ~ *President* | Matt Hueting ~ *Vice President*

David Kehne ~ *Secretary* | Robert Morris ~ *Treasurer*

Rebecca Shillingburg ~ *Worship Chair* | Will Duncan ~ *Finance Chair*

Shelley Weakly ~ *Mission, Evangelism, and Social Justice Chair*

Julie Clark ~ *Stewardship/Generosity Chair* | Dan Ebersole ~ *Property Chair*

Vacant ~ *Christian Education Chair* / Matt Davis ~ *Head Deacon* / Larry Martin ~ *Member-at-Large*

ELDERS

Ave Barr | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Matt Hueting | Jeanellen Kallevang | Eric Weakly

DEACONS

Quynn Adkins | Robin A. Brady-Slifer | Robin L. Brady-Slifer | Angela Brittain

Jim Brittain | Matt Davis | Harrison Fisher | Kyle Miller

TRANSITION TEAM

Felecia Bishop | Tommie Bradshaw | Karen Justice | Terry Logee | Allen Maples

Thomasa Pomeroy | Bud Rossig | Eliza Stitely | Katie Zander

Sunday Morning Schedule

subject to change

8:30 – 9:15 AM	Early Worship , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Coffee and Conversation , Kieffer Lobby
9:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Nursery Care
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Worship , Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org
11:30 AM	Fellowship , Downtown Community Room

Stay Informed

Subscribe to receive e-news from ERUCC at <http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5> or by scanning the QR code.



Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC

WEBSITE

www.erucc.org/give



one time or recurring gifts

GIVE THE NEW WAY



Scan to try it for yourself!

CASH OR CHECK

made payable to
Evangelical Reformed UCC
15 W. Church St,
Frederick MD 21701



*offering plates
are available in the
rear of the sanctuary
before and after worship*

Worship services and events at Evangelical Reformed UCC are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify a deacon or the church office. Always obtain permission prior to sharing images and videos that include minors on your personal social media.

E A S T E R S U N D A Y

April 20, 2025

John 20:1-18

Resurrection Joy

The morning sun was peeking over the hills of the cemetery where the faithful had gathered to sing the first alleluias of Easter. As the sky turned from black to gray to an orangey pink, casting a warm glow on the sleepy headstones, the pastor spoke of a stone rolled away, an empty tomb revealed, and angels in bright clothing asking the living among the dead, "Who are you looking for?"

It was then a young woman attending the sunrise service could no longer hold back her tears. With them flowing freely, she offered no apologies but rather she proclaimed the message of Easter more eloquently than any pastor ever could.

It's amazing that Easter joy begins in a graveyard! There is resurrection all around! We live because He lives!

Those around her smiled. Some even joined her in the tears she shed.

Yes, isn't it amazing, my friends, that Easter joy begins in a graveyard. Isn't it amazing that God brings new life from what has passed away? Death does not have the last word. Endings are new beginnings. Good-byes are followed by blessed hellos.

And yet, how many times do we fully embrace the Easter promise, believing beyond belief that the end is never the end with God?

The late Episcopal Bishop John Shelby Spong once said that "the Easter moment is a call to life, to love and to the courage to be all that God created us to be." We will never get to that Easter life, though, if we linger among that which is dead. For what are we hoping to revive? What are we clinging to? Who are we looking for?

As the angels proclaimed that first Easter morning, Jesus is alive. He is waiting to meet us on our paths where we discover the Risen Christ in the care shown to us from strangers as well as the compassion we give in return. We might not always recognize Jesus, but He is indeed there. Our cynical eyes just need to see through the lenses of faith.

May this Easter we stop our woeful gaze into the tomb of dead dreams and hopes and shout to the world, as Mary did, "I have seen the Lord!" For you have. He is alive among us — within all our hearts.

God of Easter new life, we thank You and praise You for fresh beginnings. May we begin to live as Easter people, holding tightly to the promise that death is no more. With our Risen Lord by our sides, there is always hope and amazing possibilities. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



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