

*Welcome to  
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*April 21, 2019  
Easter Sunday*



## ***First-time guests, welcome!***

*We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex and identify yourself to one of our ushers or Welcome Team members to receive a delicious gift.*

*We invite everyone to write their prayer requests and/or praise reports on the cards in the pews. They will be collected during the Hymn of Gathering and read aloud during our Prayers of the Church. These may be edited for privacy concerns.*

*A comfortable space for families is available under the balcony. All are invited to stand for sections marked with a cross (✝); however, some may choose to remain seated. Congregational responses are in **bold**.*



### **Covenant of Welcome**



*We, at Bethlehem United Church of Christ, declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Congregation where we celebrate Christ's extravagant love.*

*We covenant with God and one another to welcome the diverse tapestry of all people, no matter their age, race, nationality, ethnicity, economic circumstance, marital or family status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.*

*We invite everyone—believers and questioners, seekers and skeptics—to share their gifts in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of our congregation.*

**Order of Worship**  
**April 21, 2019**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

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Sanctuary      10:00 a.m.

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*Families and children are encouraged to participate in the Easter celebration in the sanctuary. The preschool/nursery rooms will be unstaffed but open on Easter morning for families to use if needed.*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE                                      Brass Music for Easter  
*Solid Brass*

WELCOME

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP (*Acts 10:34-43*)

One: Jesus walked the earth with God's message of peace, blessing all creation:

**All: Abundant life for all!**

One: Jesus preached God's love—justice for the poor, full sharing of earth's bounty. He rattled the authorities with

**All: hope and healing; forgiveness and welcome!**

One: Worldly powers tried to stop him: led him to a tree and crucified him; laid him in the earth: a garden tomb. Three days in the earth, and then,

**All: like the seed that dies to live, so Jesus arose to new life!**

One: So let us celebrate the risen Christ, alive in our midst even today.

**All: May we be hands and feet, hearts and minds of that risen Christ, proclaiming the good news of abundant life for all.**

✠ OPENING HYMN #216 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (Verses 1-3)

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

This is the day you have made, O Holy One, and we rejoice! Come.  
Let the world know you dwell with us. Stir our souls with love and hope,  
And let our feet dance for joy on your good earth. Open our eyes to the hopes  
and needs of this planet and all who share its life. Embolden our hearts to works  
of justice in your name. Be present to us. Empower us with your resurrection life.  
Let the world know, through our lives, that:

One: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Isaiah 65:17-25)*

One: Creator God, you made this day, this life, this planet, and all that is in it.  
All is a gift from you. All of creation is holy, and you have given it into our  
care, and yet we must confess:

**All: Our care-less actions wound and scar our earth home:**

One: Forgive us, Holy One, you, who are always creating a new heaven and a  
new earth!

**All: We rob and do not restore life-giving riches to our lands and waters:**

One: Forgive us, Holy One, you, who invite us to a feast of justice on your holy  
mountain!

**All: We foster systems which fail to house and feed and heal all our people:**

One: Forgive us, Holy One, you, who promise a world in which people build  
houses and inhabit them, plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
Risen One, teach us that your resurrection brings new life to all creation.  
Today of all days, empower us with vision and courage; let us work for  
your realm in which there is justice for all; where everyone has enough,  
sharing your abundant life.

**All: Save us, God, from our mistakes. Teach us to be a resurrection people,  
rising from the ashes of our errors to live in a new way on this earth.  
Amen.**

*(let us observe 30 seconds of silence to breathe and reflect)*

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Be empowered again to be builders of that new heaven and new earth.  
In the Risen Christ, we are now forgiven!

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (*please say in the way most familiar to you*)

**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 [sins/trespasses],  
as we forgive our debtors [those who sin/trespass against us].**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;**

**for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Jesus said, "Peace I leave you, a peace the world cannot give."  
Peace always be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

✠ SONG OF PRAISE #35

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

LEARNING WITH OUR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

Easter

R. Vaughan Williams

*Kurt Clare, baritone; Chancel Choir and Orchestra*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

**1 Corinthians 15:35-58**

<sup>35</sup> But someone may ask, "How will the dead be raised? What kind of bodies will they have?" <sup>36</sup> What a foolish question! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first. <sup>37</sup> And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a bare seed of wheat or whatever you are planting. <sup>38</sup> Then God gives it the new body he wants it to have. A different plant grows from each kind of seed. <sup>39</sup> Similarly there are different kinds of flesh—one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. <sup>40</sup> There are also bodies in the heavens and bodies on the earth. The glory of the heavenly bodies is different from the glory of the earthly bodies. <sup>41</sup> The sun has one kind of glory, while the moon and stars each have another kind. And even the stars differ from each other in their glory. <sup>42</sup> It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. <sup>43</sup> Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. <sup>44</sup> They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies. <sup>45</sup> The Scriptures tell us, "The first man, Adam, became a living

person.” But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit. <sup>46</sup> What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later. <sup>47</sup> Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven. <sup>48</sup> Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. <sup>49</sup> Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man. <sup>50</sup> What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever. <sup>51</sup> But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! <sup>52</sup> It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. <sup>53</sup> For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. <sup>54</sup> Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory. <sup>55</sup> O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” <sup>56</sup> For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup> But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>58</sup> So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

### **Luke 24:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. <sup>3</sup> So they went in, but they didn’t find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, “Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? <sup>6</sup> He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day.” <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered that he had said this. <sup>9</sup> So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened. <sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened. <sup>11</sup> But the story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn’t believe it. <sup>12</sup> However, Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; then he went home again, wondering what had happened.

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

## ✠ HYMN OF RESPONSE #218 Thine Is the Glory (Verses 1-2)

*The Member Care Team will collect written prayer requests and  
praise reports during this hymn.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER &amp; PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## INVITATION TO GIVE

All of creation is God's gift to us, including our very lives.  
What we do with our lives and with creation is our gift to God.  
Let us be about the business of building God's realm,  
a healed earth where there is enough for all.

## OFFERTORY

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing  
*Chancel Choir and Orchestra*

R. Vaughan Williams

## ✠ DOXOLOGY #46

**Praise God the source of life and breath; Praise Christ, now born to conquer death;  
Praise Holy Spirit's mystery: One God, pure grace, who sets us free. Amen.**

## ✠ UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Risen Christ, bless these gifts, along with our very lives.  
May gifts and givers alike be dedicated to your work of  
love, hope, justice, and peace. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## INVITATION

## COMMUNION PRAYER

One: God be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them to God.**  
One: Let us give thanks to God most high.  
**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

### CALL TO THE SUPPER—ALL ARE WELCOME!

*Please come forward to receive the elements through intinction by dipping bread in the chalice.*

***Everyone needing gluten-free elements should proceed down the left side of the center aisle to access the station by the baptismal font.***

*All bread is vegetarian, the chalices contain grape juice.*

*Communion will be brought to the balcony (including gluten-free options) and to anyone preferring to be served in the pew.*

### COMMUNION ANTHEM

The Call

R. Vaughan Williams

*Kurt Clare, baritone; Orchestra*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✠ HYMN OF PARTING #234      Crown Him with Many Crowns  
*(choir, verse 1; congregation, verses 2-4)*

### ✠ BENEDICTION

Go forth to live boldly, as if death has no power over you.

Live as if your lives count for something—because they do.

God calls us in abundant love to serve something greater than our own finite lives, a greater cause for which we would even lay down our lives, as Jesus did.

For just as death on a tree could not stop the Christ, so our lives in service to God become larger than ourselves, part of the ever in-breaking realm of God—

that realm of justice and truth,

of enough for all and not too much for any one.

Go in peace, to love, to serve, and to proclaim:

One: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### ✠ POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus, Messiah

Georg F. Handel

*Anyone wishing to sing with us is encouraged to come forward and join the choir on the chancel steps.*



## Hallelujah Chorus

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world  
Is become the kingdom of our Lord,  
And of His Christ, and of His Christ;  
And He shall reign for ever and ever,  
For ever and ever, forever and ever.

King of kings, and Lord of lords,  
King of kings, and Lord of lords,  
And Lord of lords,  
And He shall reign,  
And He shall reign forever and ever,  
King of kings, forever and ever,  
And Lord of lords, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign forever and ever,  
King of kings! and Lord of lords!  
And He shall reign forever and ever,  
King of kings! and Lord of lords!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**Resurrection of All Creation: Service prayers for Easter Sunday** was written by the Reverend Meighan Pritchard. This service was written originally for Easter Season 2013 which the UCC celebrated as Mission 4/1 Earth. Copyright 2019 Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

# 2019 Easter Gifts, in Memory of



## Daffodil in Memory of:

Jackie Opperman  
Nancy Heusel  
Keith Boyd

## Given by:

Judy & Dimitri Coucouvanis  
Barb, Tim, Rachel, & John Schenk  
Barb, Tim, Rachel, & John Schenk

## Hyacinth in Memory of:

Claire Coucouvanis  
Helen & Carl Stoll

## Given by:

Judy & Dimitri Coucouvanis  
Their Family

## Lily in Memory of:

Erwin & Luella Weber  
Daniel E. Weber  
William & Aletta Kulenkamp  
Gerry & Lloyd Seyfried  
John Schneider

## Given by:

Jim & Joann Weber and Norm & Kathy Cole  
Jim & Joann Weber and Norm & Kathy Cole  
Paul & Nancy Thibault  
Marty & Laura Seyfried  
Gale, Bill, & Jeffrey

## Tulip in Memory of:

Jean & Carl Raab  
Robert Opperman  
Polly, Karlene, & Martha  
Betty & Richard Boman  
Anness Stafford  
Elizabeth Scott  
Judy Stentzel

## Given by:

Mary Jean, Chuck, and Families  
Judy & Dimitri Coucouvanis  
Carole & Larry Katz  
Nancy ,Greg, Kelly, & Brian Gotham  
Sandy Stafford & Sharon Seay  
Sandy Stafford & Sharon Seay  
Sandy Stafford & Sharon Seay

## Cemetery Memorial Garden in Memory of:

Norman and Helen Grob  
Robert & Geraldine Paul  
Alfred J. Paul  
Our Parents  
Oscar, Martha, & Ken Holzapfel  
Ernest, Eleanora, & Robert Gardner  
John & Selma Haab

## Given by:

Norma and Conrad Foster  
Mary Friend  
Mary Friend  
Susan & John Irwin  
Harriett Holzapfel  
Harriett Holzapfel  
Mike & Dindy

## Other Funds of Choice:

Radio Fund  
Capital Campaign  
Scholarship  
Youth Memorial Fund  
Property Improvement

## In Memory of:

Ray & Marie Zahn  
Joseph, Laura, & John O'Reilly  
Ernie, Don, & John Gardner  
John Schneider  
Cal & Eleanor Seyfried

## Given by:

Ken & Judi Tappe  
Pat & Shannon  
Harriett Holzapfel  
Gale, Bill, & Jeffrey  
Dindy & Mike

# *2019 Easter Gifts, in Honor of*



**Daffodil in Honor of:**  
Our Grandchildren  
P.J. Lindemann  
Robert Chaffer's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

**Given by:**  
Carole & Larry Katz  
Barb, Tim, Rachel, & John Schenk  
Barb Chaffer Authier

**Hyacinth in Honor of:**  
Our Families  
Jill Schwartz

**Given by:**  
The Kennedy Family  
Katie, Carrie, & Steve

**Lily in Honor of:**  
Carole Katz

**Given by:**  
Jill, Steve, Katie, & Carrie Schwartz

**Tulip in Honor of:**  
Our Families  
The McCabe Family  
John & Nancy Schenk  
Robert Chaffer's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

**Given by:**  
The Kennedy Family  
Mom & Dad and Grandpa & Grandma  
Barb, Tim, Rachel, & John Schenk  
Barb Chaffer Authier

**Radio Fund in Honor of:**  
Harriett Holzapfel

**Given by:**  
Theresa Hilberer

*Thank you to all for these generous gifts.  
You brought so much beauty and joy  
to this blessed Easter morning.*

*Please remember to take your flowers home to enjoy!*

## **HELPING IN THE SERVICES TODAY**

**Pastor:** Rev. John L. Kennedy

**Minister of Spiritual Growth and Development:** Lily Tinker Fortel

**Director of Music:** Thomas Burton

**Organist:** Gail Jennings

**10:00 Bell Ringer** Matt Perros

**Liturgist** Barb Chaffer Authier

**Coffee Connection Servers**

Jan Burnham, Mary Friend

**10:00 Sound Technicians** Edgar Vasquez, Kurt Schmerberg

**Office Volunteer** Jacquie Katz

**10:00 Educational Building Greeters** Pat O'Reilly, Laura Seyfried

**Building Opener/Closer**

Norm Wetzel/John Irwin

**Ushers**

Larry Katz, Hans Maier, Tom Naylor, Marty Seyfried, Jay Katz,  
Mark Katz, Scott Buday, Kris Jaeger

**Musicians**

**Bethlehem Chancel Choir**

**Bethlehem Orchestra** Violin I: Andrew Jennings, Heewon Uhm, Tina Rowan;

Violin II: Katie Rowan, Rose Brown;

Viola: Ben Penzner, Sam Koeppel;

Cello: Hanna Rumora, Joshua Devries;

Bass: Tommy Hawthorne

**Solid Brass** Trumpet: Scot Cannell, Gary Maki;

Horn: Evan Wright; Trombone: Steve Roberts; Tuba: Chris Jackson