

***Salem United Church of Christ***  
***German Reformed***

231 Chestnut Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Present Building Erected 1821-22, Organized 1787

## **Welcome to Salem UCC**

If you are visiting us today, welcome! Feel free to sign your name in the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to receive a pastoral call, or be put on our mailing list, please fill out the visitor card at the back and place in the basket.

## **Some Basics**

Restrooms are located out the left door at the front of the sanctuary. Take a left and a quick right and you'll find both the men's and women's restrooms off the hall to the church office on the left.

For your safety, yellow and red cards are placed at each pew with emergency procedures in case they are necessary. In addition, the church doors are closed after the first hymn at approximately 10:40. If you will arrive after that, please text your name and the time you will arrive to 717-319-8992 and we will make sure you are welcomed at the door on the east side garden at the corner of Chestnut and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Church Tours**

Salem is the oldest church in Harrisburg established in 1787 on land given by John Harris. If you would like to learn more about the church, please come to the front of the church after the service and one of our members will give you a 15-minute guided tour.

## **Our information**

Website: [www.salemuccharrisburg.org](http://www.salemuccharrisburg.org)

Facebook: Salem United Church of Christ, Harrisburg, PA

Church phone: (717) 232-7145

Church email: [salemucc@hotmail.com](mailto:salemucc@hotmail.com)

Pastor email: [pastor.salemuccharrisbur@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.salemuccharrisbur@gmail.com)

**Salem United Church of Christ**  
**April 18, 2021**  
**3rd Sunday of Eastertide**

Our Mission

*"Historic Salem, in the heart of Harrisburg, seeks the Holy Spirit's guidance in welcoming all people to worship God; by encouraging participation in the ministry of Christ through Christian outreach with the city's heart."*

Welcome and Pre-liturgy Announcements

Organ Prelude

Tolling of the bell

\*Call to Worship (please rise)

L: In the midst of joy, in the midst of suffering,

**P: Jesus is with us!**

L: In the midst of faith, in the midst of doubt,

**P: Jesus is with us!**

L: In life and in death,

**P: Jesus is with us!**

**ALL: Through Jesus we have received eternal life and everlasting peace. Alleluia! Praise to you, O Risen Lord!**

Opening Hymn:                    *"Sing With All the Sons of Glory"*                    Red 177 v 1,2

Prayer of Invocation

L: Jesus Christ, Risen Lord, Savior, Friend. Through you we have the gift of resurrection life and hope. Through you we have the gift of peace. Grant that our hearts would stay open and expectant to you so that you

can pour your gifts of grace and love into our lives, for your praise and glory!

## Prayer of Confession

L: Let us continue in a prayer of confession:

**All: All-merciful God. We look elsewhere for the peace that only you can give. We distract ourselves instead of coming to you for wisdom and healing. Be gracious to us and hear our prayer of confession. Show us what keeps us from entering your peace in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.**

## Interlude

## Kyrie



## Words of Assurance

M: If you put your trust in God, then you will both lie down and sleep in peace, for it is God who makes us safe. Through the name of Jesus who became our peace, Amen.

Solo

*"Peace I Leave With You"*

R. Maxwell, W. Wirges

## Scripture Lessons

First Reading: Acts 8:12-20a

Peter speaks after healing a lame man

<sup>12</sup> When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup> But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup> and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup> And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup> “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, <sup>20</sup> so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...”

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Paul’s final instructions

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gloria Patri (please stand and stay standing for the Gospel)



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-  
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

<sup>36</sup> While they were talking about this (the Emmaus road experience) Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup> They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah<sup>1</sup> is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. (please be seated).

Sermon

*Peace Be With You*

Hymn of Response

*“It Is Well With My Soul”*

Black 438 v 1,2,4

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

Rejoicing in the mighty power of God who has given us hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray.

M: For our lives and for those whom we love, for the beauty of this planet which God has created for us, for the presence of the peace of Christ in our lives, let us give thanks to the Lord of life...Risen Lord, **Receive our praise!**

M: For your church, O Christ, for those who serve in the church and through the church, that we may bring the hope of the resurrection to all people everywhere, and especially to our friends and neighbors...Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

M: For the leaders of the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers of oppression and destruction may be defeated through the light and love of truth and goodness. May God's peace, justice, and prosperity multiply and spread through our prayers and actions...Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

M: For those who are sick and those who suffer, that the hope born of Easter gives them peace and healing. We pray specifically for...  
and those we mention now both silently and out loud...  
In the midst of their struggles may they sense your presence, Lord, who has shared our struggles to bring us peace...Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

M: For those who have passed from this life to the next that they may rest in the love and light of God. That we who grieve them may find our hope in the power of the resurrection and be comforted in the truth that death is not the end of our stories...Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

M: We offer these prayers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying...**Our Father which 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

Presenting our Offerings

Doxology (please rise)

Prayer for Offering

M: Blessed are you, gracious God, who holds all things in your hands. As you have given us new life through Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to not only praise you, but also to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn

*"Because You Live O Christ"*

Black 231 v 1,3

Benediction (from 2 Thessalonians 3:16).

M: "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you." In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

(Please remain standing until the candles have been extinguished.)

Postlude

## **THOSE SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY**

Organist: Caleb Sisak

Custodian: Sandy Sgrignoli

Soloist: Joseph Sobel

Pastor: Sue Schmidt

Worship Leader: Susan Nelson

The flowers on the altar are in celebration of Pastor Sue Schmidt's ordination today, from the people of Salem church.

## **TO PONDER THIS WEEK**

When you find yourself needing peace this week, remember Paul's words.

1. Take some time to be quiet and ponder the situation you're concerned about.
2. Thank God for all the ways God is present in this situation. Thank God for God's power and love and promise to be with you.
3. Bring your request to God. Be specific.
4. Be still. Ask God if there's something God wants you to know.
5. Keep your heart open for God's peace to enter. You may need to continue to ask but do so in thanksgiving!