

THEN

their eyes were

OPENED

and they recognized

HIM.

LUKE 24:31, NIV

***St. John's United Church of Christ
Welcome Back to In-person Worship***

Also on Facebook & FM 88.5

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

10:00 a.m.

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

April 18, 2021

(Let us be silent and prayerful as we prepare ourselves for worship.)

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remembering that God calls us through Christ to be ministers with each other, St. John's United Church of Christ, as inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit, seeks: To be inclusive and accessible to all people; To provide loving service to all of God's people through mission and ministry; To strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Prelude

Sharing of Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Threshold Moment

Call to Worship:

Face this new day, even when you aren't sure..

We lift up our heads to meet the day.

Get ready for life, for life is all around.

We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

If rain still lingers, open the umbrellas of hope and set out anyway.

For we are called to dance again!

Hymn "***Come and Join the Celebration***"

(Tune: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing") Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

1. **Come and join the celebration! Praise the Lord and gladly sing.**
Hear the gospel proclamation: God in Christ changed everything!
Tell again the wondrous story; let your praises rise above.
God, we sing and give you glory for your everlasting love.
2. **Sing with joy, for on a Sunday friends of Jesus went to grieve.**
Soon they found his tomb was empty; telling others, they believed.
God of miracle and wonder, Jesus died and lives again.
Death has lost, for you are stronger; all creation sings, "Amen!"
3. **Sing with joy, each generation! Sing with those who've gone before.**
Join the kingdom celebration, old and young, both rich and poor.
We have life, for we're forgiven; where, O death, is now your sting?
Born of dust, we're claimed for heaven, so let all God's people sing.

Prayer - Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation -You set this world in motion and gave it life.
Turn us to You when our steps are not sure. Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek
You - so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

Affirming the Peace Among Us

The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

And also with you! *(You are invited to turn to the people around you and wave as a sign of graceful greetings this day.)*

Song of Praise

"Halleluja"

No. 236

Words for All - Especially Children

Scripture: Luke 24:36b-48

Special Music

Message *"Dig It"*

Morning Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sinned and sinned against us) 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned 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.

Sharing our Joys and Celebrations

Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: **Generous and surprising God, when we thought that death had claimed Your only Son, You amazed us with the resurrection. Surprise us again with Your ability to turn these humble offerings into gifts that will transform the world through our witness to Your love. We lay our very lives at Your feet, O God, knowing that You will use us to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen**

Hymn *"Lord of the Dance"*

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| <p>1. I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.</p> <p><u>Chorus:</u>
Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.</p> | <p>2. I danced on the Sabbath And I cured the lame;
The holy people Said it was a shame.
They whipped, and they stripped
And they hung me on high,
And they left me there
On a Cross to die. (Chorus)</p> <p>3. They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.</p> |
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Benediction

Postlude

THIS WEEK

Monday, April 19	7:00 p.m.	FINANCE/PERSONNEL (ZOOM)
Tuesday, April 20		
Wednesday, April 21	7:00 p.m.	HOLY ENVY BOOK STUDY (ZOOM)
Thursday April 22	7:00 p.m.	WIRED WORD STUDY (ZOOM)
Friday, April 23		
Saturday April 24	9am-3pm	Girl Scout Troop 60360 (PAV)
Sunday, April 25	10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	WORSHIP Peacemakers Quilters (PAV)

In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning

(please contact the church office, at 570-523-0162, with any updates)

Ongoing Needs- Theresa Beers, Betty Hackenberg, Janet & Richard Heaton, Joanne & Bill Stahley, Linda Williams, Wayne Williams.

Shut-In/Homebound- Ann Beasom, Richard Berry, Peg Brouse, Bill & Lola Fuller, Evelyn Mabus, Ken Moore, Ethel Moser, Loretta Roberson, Mary Stover, Amelia Troutman.

Immediate Concerns -Oliver Auman, The Family of Helen Barsh, Joyce, Maryjane Derr, Carol Hahn, Christine Sartwell, Peg Swinehart.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

April 11, 2021

Clean-up Kits - \$20.00; Current Expenses - \$796.00; Envelope Expenses - \$1.00;
Food Pantry - \$20.00; Giant Gift Cards - \$300.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$60.00;
Loose Offering - \$22.00; OCWM - \$80.00; Weis Gift Cards - \$100.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$1,399.00 THANK YOU!

CHANCE FLOWERS - Are given in loving memory of Richard Pauling by his family.

"HOLY ENVY" BOOK STUDY - We will continue to share in conversation around the work of Barbara Brown Taylor in her book, "*Holy Envy*." "The renowned Christian preacher ... recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching world religions to undergraduates in Baptist-saturated rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations." We will finish the study this Spring with a ZOOM session on **Wednesday, April 21 at 7 pm**. Please let Pastor Alice or Todd know if you are interested in participating. (570) 523-0162

WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY - You're invited to a ZOOM Sunday School class on a **Thursday, April 22, at 7 pm**. Linda Williams, Gary Nottis, and Pastor Alice will lead us in a discussion about one of the Wired Word topics. We will let you know ahead of time which topic we will use as our focus. So, mark your calendars for a **ZOOM gathering on Thursday, April 22nd, at 7 p.m.** The ZOOM link will be sent out a few days before the gathering. **Please call the office no later than April 21st to be added to the ZOOM link email.** Join us for reflection on scripture in conversation with an event or idea from the current news. Linda is asking for suggestions on a topic from the Wired Word series. If anyone has a suggestion, please let Linda know. (570) 524-4039.

SAVE THE DATE - Hartman Center Spirit Week, **When:** Saturday, August 8 - Saturday, August 14
Where: Camp Mount Luther in Mifflinburg, PA. More info to come!

ACOLYTE HELP NEEDED - We are searching for a few people age 10 - 99, to be acolytes for our Sunday worship services. If you are someone who feels comfortable attending in-person worship, and think you'd like to help out, please reach out to Pastor Alice or Todd. (570) 523-0162.

CLEAN-UP KITS - Church World Services is in need of clean-up kits for disaster relief. We are accepting monetary donations for Church World Services to complete the kits needed. The cost of one Clean-up Kit is \$75.00. ANY donations will be greatly appreciated.