

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

# April 19, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook Live

or in the afternoon on our church website at westminsterakron.org

#### COME

We welcome you to Westminster's virtual worship service on this second Sunday of Easter. To set a more worshipful tone while watching this service at home, we encourage you to find a quiet space and light a candle.

If you are joining us on Facebook Live, then you can find a copy of today's bulletin on our church website at westminsterakron.org.

Voluntary Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain Wilbur Held

\*Call to Worship Barb Shriner

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.

\*Hymn 119 The Strife Is O'er

**VICTORY** 

REFRAIN: Alleluia, alleluia! (Sing before verse 1 and after verse 4)

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done, The victory of life is won, The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

- 2. The powers of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed; Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!
- 3. The three sad days are quickly sped, Christ rises glorious from the dead; All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!
- 4. Lord, by Your wounds on Calvary From death's dread sting your servants free, That we may live eternally. Alleluia!

**REFRAIN** 

## **ENCOUNTER**

Call to Confession

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

**Prayer of Confession** 

God, you have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often, we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

Silence is observed.

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Assurance of Forgiveness** 

My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us. In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God. That is a promise of peace and joy; share that peace with one another.

\*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father Gloria Patri Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.

\*Passing the Peace

We invite you now to greet one another saying,

The peace of Christ be with you.

Time for Church Life

Musical Reflection The Lamb

Nancy Daley Benjamin Hayes, soloist

Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life, and bid thee feed By the stream and o'er the mead; Gave thee clothing of delight, Softest clothing, woolly, bright; Gave thee such a tender voice Making all the vales rejoice? Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is called by thy name, For he calls himself a Lamb; He is meek and he is mild, He became a little child: I, a child, and thou a lamb, We are called by his name. We are called by his name. Called by his name. Little Lamb, God bless thee!

\*Response 592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Time with Young Disciples

Sheila Svoboda

### **GROW**

Prayer for Illumination

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. Amen.

The First Lesson Psalm 16:1-11

Old Testament

- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- 2 I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."
- 3 As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.
- 4 Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.
- 5 The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

- 7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 8 I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.
- 10 For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.
- 11 You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

The Second Lesson John 20:19-31

**New Testament** 

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!** 

Sermon Behind Closed Doors The Reverend Doctor Sandy Selby

#### **SERVE**

\*Affirmation of Faith

This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for us according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God.

Prayers of the People and 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, forever. Amen.

\*Hymn 122 Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

- 1. Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy body lay.
- 2. Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb; Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing, For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting.
- 3. No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without Thee; Aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors Through Thy deathless love; Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy home above.

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

\*Charge and Benediction

Voluntary The Strife Is O'er

Wilbur Held

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Bible study from home** Are you interested in participating in a Bible study from home? If so, please contact Pastor Jon and let him know if you would prefer a group video conference or group phone conference. jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com

Helping Our Community Due to COVID-19, many families in our community have become unemployed or underemployed joining the many who are homeless or otherwise in need. These families are without sufficient funds to purchase basic supplies including food or pay their rent. In response to our community's needs, the Outreach Committee asks you to consider a monetary contribution to one of the following organizations:

**Good Neighbors** 1453 Goodyear Blvd. Akron, Ohio 44305 Akron-Canton Foodbank 350 Opportunity Pkwy. Akron, OH 44307 United Way of Summit County COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund 37 N. High Street Akron, Ohio 44308

**Haven of Rest** If you are willing and able to volunteer, the Haven of Rest is in need of volunteers to set up the dining area for guests. The facility is sanitized and there is minimal contact as the volunteers leave the dining area before the guests arrive. The Haven of Rest provides gloves and a hairnet. Volunteers are asked to bring their own masks. Typically Westminster provides volunteers on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 6-7 pm. If you are available at those times, please contact Becky Harlow at beckybuc33@gmail.com. If you are able and willing to serve on another day, please contact Jan Pluck at Haven of Rest at 330-535-1563.

During these difficult times, the church remains grateful for your faithful support of our ministries through your financial contributions.

Please help us continue to serve the WPC family and our neighbors by ensuring that our staff is supported, our facility remains operational, and the "least of these" are served. To give online, click under the tab "online giving."

#### **Monthly Financial Report**

| March 2020     | Actual      | Budget      | YTD Actual   | YTD Budget     |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| Total Revenues | \$53,551.98 | \$56,657.70 | \$199,579.59 | **\$166,290.15 |
| Total Expenses | \$45,442.12 | \$52,030.54 | \$131,236.10 | \$157,616.58   |
| Net            | \$8,109.86  | \$4,627.16  | \$68,343.49  | \$8,673.57     |

<sup>\*\*</sup>Budgeted total revenues include anticipated withdrawals from Rowley investments necessary to balance the budget totaling \$20,969 for the year.

Please contact the Finance Office if you would like a copy of the detailed financial report for the period ending March 31, 2020.

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by Rebecca Mullin Cardina and family with loving memories of her parents, Marjorie Mullin (with the fabulous hats) and Bill (big Stetson) Mullin. LOVE LASTS AS LONG AS WE REMEMBER.

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to noon, Monday - Friday. Staff schedule in the office: Monday - Pastor Jon, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. Tuesday - Debby Evrard, Mallory Gray and Dave Bodnar. Wednesday - Pastor Jon, Debby Evrard and Dave Bodnar. Thursday - Debby Evrard, Sheila Svoboda and Dave Bodnar. Friday - Pastor Jon and Claudine Schooley

