

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 27, 2025 – 10:30AM**

## GATHERING

# CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## PRELUDE “Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia”

**WELCOME** Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed

**INTROIT**                      **“Now the Green Blade Riseth”**  
Covenant Ringers

## CALL TO WORSHIP

# Christ is risen!

# Christ is risen, indeed!

# Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good!

## God's steadfast love endures forever!

The Lord is our strength and might;

## Today the Lord has become our salvation!

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

**This is God's handiwork, and it is marvelous in our eyes!**

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**\*HYMN 611    “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”**

*1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*2 All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*

*3 Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Everly Raper

**God of empty tombs and empty people: when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us voice. When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with your joy.**

## **SILENCE**

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## **\*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 240)**

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!*

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## WORD

**TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Robert Newman

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**GOSPEL READING**

**John 20:19-31**

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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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." 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." 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 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." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

## "Blessed Assurance"

Covenant Ringers

## READING FROM ACTS

**Acts 5:27-32**

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed

## \*HYMN 817 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

*1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."*

*2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"*

*3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.*

*4 And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

## EUCHARIST

### OFFERING

#### \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures high and low.*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise God, in Jesus fully known:*

*Creator, Word, and Spirit one.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Invitation to the Table*

*Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Breaking of the Bread*

*Communion of the People*

*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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## SENDING

### **\*HYMN 536      “Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen”**

*1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen, from this meal of love and grace;  
may we through such love envision whose we are, and whose, our praise.*

*Alleluia, alleluia: God, the wonder of our days.*

*2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow after Christ, though wounded, whole;  
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed to release and to console.*

*Alleluia, alleluia: Christ, our present, past, and goal.*

*3 Rise, remember well the future God has called us to receive;  
present by God’s loving nurture, Spirited then let us live.*

*Alleluia, alleluia: Spirit, grace by whom we live.*

*4 Service be our sure vocation; courage be our daily breath;  
mercy be our destination from this day and unto death.*

*Alleluia, alleluia. Rise, O church, a living faith.*

### **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

### **\*POSTLUDE                      “Thine Is the Glory”**

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#### **Leading Today’s Worship**

Rev. Leanne Pearce Reed, Co-Pastor

Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson, Co-Pastor

Robert Newman, Program Director

Ty Thornton, Pianist and Interim Choir Director

David Renaker, Organist

Everly Raper, Liturgist

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#### **Coming Up**

#### **Wednesday Night Connect, 5:30 pm**

Join us on Wednesday evening for a Mexican Dinner and brownies. The program will feature recipients of the 2025 Southminster Presbyterian Church Foundation for Ministry grants with speakers from Libby’s Friends, Kid One, and the Assistance League of Birmingham. Call the Church Office to make a dinner reservation.

### **Anyone up for a Hike?**

Join friends at Oak Mountain State Park on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10am. We will meet at the North Trailhead parking lot and hike the Blue trail to Peavine Falls. For more information, contact George Rush at [Califer12@yahoo.com](mailto:Califer12@yahoo.com).

### **Ty Thornton Piano Recital**

Join us next Sunday, May 4, at 4:30pm in Grace Hall as Ty presents "Potpourri," a program mixing piano music from Austria, England, France and Spain.

### **Welcome to Southminster**

**Connect:** If you are new to Southminster, we are glad you are here! Fill out a connect card and visit us online at [southminsterpcusa.org](http://southminsterpcusa.org) to learn more about what's coming up.

**Children:** We welcome children of all ages in worship. Childcare is also available for infants through age three in our Nursery (Room 213), staffed by caring, experienced workers. Worship bags for children are available in the entryway.

**Communion:** All are welcome at the table as we celebrate the Lord's Supper each week. The bread and juice are alcohol-free and gluten-free. If you prefer to remain seated during communion, an elder will be glad to bring the elements to you.

**Prayer concerns:** Fill out a card to share prayer concerns with our pastoral staff. You can pick up a copy of prayer concerns at the entrances to the sanctuary each week.

**Offering:** Offerings may be placed in the offering boxes located at the sanctuary entrances, or you may give securely online by visiting [southminsterpcusa.org/give](http://southminsterpcusa.org/give).

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## **This Week**

### **SUNDAY / APRIL 27**

8:15 & 10:30am / Worship Service  
9:15am / Sunday School  
1:30pm / Hope Circle  
5:00pm / Birmingham Youth Group

### **MONDAY / APRIL 28**

10:30am / Centering Prayer  
5:00pm / Day School Board Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY / APRIL 30**

12:00pm / Community Grief Support Adult Child Loss Group  
5:30pm / Wednesday Night Supper  
6:15pm / Program  
7:00pm / Chancel Choir Practice

### **THURSDAY / MAY 1**

11:00am / Bible Study

### **FRIDAY / MAY 2**

9:00am / Day School Chapel

### **SATURDAY / MAY 3**

9:00am / Kings Home Thrift Store Pickup

### **SUNDAY / MAY 4**

8:15 & 10:30am / Worship Service  
9:15am / Sunday School  
11:45am / Faith Formation Committee  
11:45am / Lunch Bunch – Newk's  
11:45am / Young Families Lunch  
4:30pm / Ty Thornton Piano Recital  
5:00pm / Birmingham Youth Group