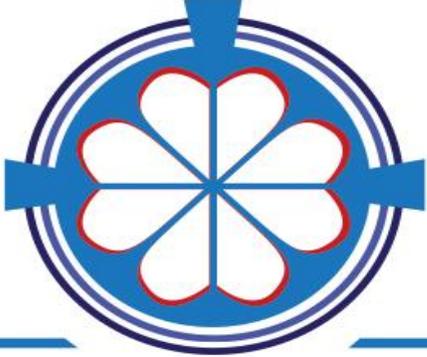


First   
Presbyterian  
Church of Monroe

April 30, 2017; 11:00 AM

108 Washington St., Monroe, Michigan 48161

734.242.1545; [info@monroefirst.org](mailto:info@monroefirst.org)

[www.monroefirst.org](http://www.monroefirst.org); [www.facebook.com/FPCMonroe](https://www.facebook.com/FPCMonroe)

The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ and to proclaim his salvation in worship, education, and outreach.

# Third Sunday of Easter

*\*We invite all who are able to stand where there is an asterisk.*

## OPENING WORDS

The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet from garden tomb through darkened city street

**Unlocks the door of grief, despair and fear, and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.**

PRELUDE Variation Prelude on “Dunlap's Creek”

J. William Greene

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Look! God is coming with the clouds; every eye will see.

**Even those who pierced him; and on this account all the tribes of the earth shall wail.**

So it is to be. I am the Alpha and the Omega,

**who is, who was and who is to come, the Lord God the Almighty!**

\*HYMN ★ 305 “Come Sing, O Church in Joy”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we acknowledge that we belong to you, and that you hold the keys of death and life. Yet we have sought to preserve old ways of living, rather than embracing the new life you have given us. We have disbelieved your good news, even when its signs are all around us. Forgive our refusal to trust you. Set us free by your Spirit from the fear that binds us in unbelief. Fill us with new life in Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*We greet one another with words and signs of the peace of Christ.*

\*SONG OF AFFIRMATION ★817 “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” v. 1

*We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as one e'er spoke, “My peace be with you here.”*

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING — Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

OT p. 564

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING — Luke 24:13-35

NT p. 90

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Easter People Rejoice”

HYMN ★418 “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

OFFERING

*Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Registry*

OFFERTORY “Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands”

Johann Ludwig

\*DOXOLOGY ★606

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Take what is yours, O Lord, take our mind, our will, our all. And return to us your peace that we may walk by faith and not by sight and love you all the more. Amen.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and buried;  
he descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*HYMN ★697 "Take My Life"**

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE ★246 “Christ Is Alive!” vs. 1-2

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.  
Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.*

POSTLUDE Fugue on “Dunlap's Creek”

J. William Greene

## TODAY

### **Today's Guest Preacher**

Today's guest preacher comes to us from St. Paul's United Methodist Church, where he has been a member for over 30 years. Christopher Balk and his wife, Julie, live in Ypsilanti, MI with their two girls, Cera and Jenna. For several years, he has been working on his Lay Speaker certification with a focus on delivering sermons for local churches. In his free time, he is a saxophonist for the Dexter Community Band and the Ann Arbor Civic Band. He is also the Managing Director and Lead Tenor Saxophonist for the Ypsi based Depot Town Big Band.

### **Today's Guest Organist**

We welcome Paul Haebig as guest organist today. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pa., Paul has served as organist and director of music for Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Jewish congregations. He came to Michigan to study at the University of Michigan School of Music where he earned M. Mus. and D.M.A. degrees with Marilyn Mason.

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar are donated by Alan Schroeder in loving memory of Marilyn Schroeder and in honor of their wedding anniversary, May 3, 1969.

### **Sunday Fellowship in Boyd Chapel**

After worship, please come across the hall for a time of fellowship and light refreshments.

### **Adult Education**

Thank you to Ann Lux, who taught the adult education class this morning on the Apostle Thomas, and his doubts and questions surrounding the resurrection of Jesus.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to FPC of Monroe!** We are glad you are here today! We hope you find this a community of faith where you experience God in Jesus Christ. Childcare is always provided on Sunday mornings and the nursery is located near the parking lot entrance of the church. Hearing assistance is available.

### **Sermons**

Printed copies of the weekly sermon are available in the church office in the mailbox labeled Sermons.

### **Spring Cleaning**

Spring cleaning is here and the Building & Property Committee will be getting rid of items no longer used or items that have been stored at the church. If you have personal items stored at the church, please retrieve them and take them home. During the month of May the Building & Property Committee will place items to be disposed of on the stage for any member of the congregation to take at their choosing. This will include used computer equipment. At the end of May the remainder of the items will be disposed of. The Building & Property Committee thanks you for your assistance in this project.

### **Prayer Requests**

Please contact Diane Adams with specific prayer requests. A few members of our Prayer Team will be available to pray with you on every first Sunday of the month (which generally is communion Sunday) after worship.

### **Community of Needs Meal Donations**

The kitchen needs your plastic grocery bags for the food we get from MCOP to pass out on Thursday nights.

## **Adult Education on Sundays in May, 9:30-10:20 a.m., Cairl Room**

### **World Religions and Other Faiths**

What do we really know about other religions, even about other Christian denominations? This four-week adult ed series will try to help answer some of the more common questions regarding Islam, Judaism, and various Christian denominations and sects.

### **May 7--Islam**

Most of what we hear in the news regarding Muslims and Islam is a stereotype based on Islamic extremist views. In this presentation we will explore the basic beliefs of Islam, the writings of the Koran, the Prophet Mohammed, and the importance of Mecca to Muslims today.

### **May 14--Judaism**

Our own Christian faith has as its foundation Judaism. Our Lord was a Jew, as were the first Christians who carried the new faith abroad. This presentation will examine some of the images of the Jewish faith, such as temple worship, the prophets, the Law, and covenant and creation. Martin Luther said that we should study Judaism and the Old Testament first before we can have any reasonable grasp of who Jesus is and what he has done. So, this is a little try.

### **May 21--Christianity I**

The Western world is divided evenly into Protestants and Catholics. What are the similarities and differences between these two faith traditions. Where did they originate? And how did later Protestant traditions emerge? The world has nearly 35,000 different Protestant traditions--why and what makes them different?

### **May 28--Christianity II**

The United States was considered an experiment in how to organize around one's religious beliefs. This experiment spawned numerous Christian fringe groups, sects, and cults, especially during the nineteenth century. We will discuss Shakers, Mormons, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

## THIS WEEK

MONDAY	7:00	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY	11:00	Staff
	2:30	Charlotte Handbell Choir
WEDNESDAY	9:30	Chair Yoga
	1:00	Sparklers
	6:30	Bells
	7:30	Choir
THURSDAY	10:00	Bible Study
	6:00	Community of Need Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00	TOPS
FRIDAY	9:00	TOPS
	8:00	Heroin Anonymous
SATURDAY		
SUNDAY	9:30	Adult Class with Pastor Annemarie
	10:30	Choir
	11:00	Worship (Communion)
	12:15	Congregational Appreciation Luncheon
	12:30	Bed Board Meeting



APRIL 30, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Eyes of faith are opened in the breaking of bread.**

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	On the road to Emmaus
Monday	Genesis 18:1-14	Abraham and Sarah eat with God
Tuesday	Exodus 24:1-11	Moses eats with God
Wednesday	John 21:1-14	Jesus eats with his disciples
Thursday	1 Corinthians 11:23-29	Recognizing the Lord's body
Friday	John 5:24-26, 37-40	The Scriptures testify to Christ
Saturday	Psalms 116	Recovery from illness
Sunday	John 10:1-10	Christ the shepherd

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

Then the disciples from Emmaus told what happened on the road and how they knew he was the Lord when he broke the bread. **Luke 24:35 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Lord Jesus, please walk with us each day this week. Give us the faith to see you beside us. Amen. (Luke 24:15, 30-31)

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Come and stay with us, Lord Jesus. Be with us in our eating, our sharing, and our serving. Thank you for all you give to us. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord walk with you this day and always. May God stay with you every night and every day. (Luke 24:13-35)

### **HYMN OF THE WEEK:**

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*

## **CARING CONVERSATIONS**

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Give an example of being surprised when you noticed something you had not been aware of before.
- The disciples from Emmaus were able to see their Lord when Jesus broke the bread. What does it mean to you to break bread with Jesus?
- What opens your eyes to see Jesus as your Lord?

## **DEVOTIONS**

Read: Acts 2:14a, 36-41.

In Luke and Acts (written by the same person), the resurrection is not an end but a beginning. In the resurrection, people are called to turn back to God, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit. This resurrection life is a promise given to all future generations (Acts 2:38-39). Now read 1 Peter 1:17-23, which indicates what the resurrection life, being “born anew,” looks like for the community of faith. What are the joys and challenges of life in the resurrection? Close your time of reflection with the Lord’s Prayer.

## **SERVICE**

Jesus came alongside two of these followers in their sorrow and brought them joy, Plan a visit to someone who would appreciate some company. Or, you may contact someone who is away at college, in the military, or who simply lives at a distance from you and would enjoy a card or social media contact in the days ahead. You could also use “A Prayer for the Week” from this Taking Faith Home with this person.

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

A traditional Easter season greeting is the exchange, “Christ is risen” with the response, “He is risen, indeed. Alleluia.” Share this greeting with family and friends with the addition of this question at the end, “Christ is risen” with the response, “He is risen, indeed. What should we do?” (Acts 2:37b).

## **Sermon Notes:**

### **Staff:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Director of Music Ministry:** Susan Barker;  
**Christian Education Director :** Diane Adams; **Financial Secretary:** Sue Bondie;  
**Administrative Assistant:** Kelly Vergowven; **Sexton:** Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Sue Bondie, Amy Morgan; **Custodian:** Lori Lewis

**Pastors Emeriti:** Rev. Dean McGormley, Rev. Dr. Ellen McGormley

### **Worship Leadership Today:**

**Guest Preacher:** Christopher Balk; **Guest Organist:** Paul Haebig; **Liturgist:** Janet Spence; **Ushers:** Kay & John Gawle, Liz Cunningham, Marilyn Marshall