

Covenant Community Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024



We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 29)

Leader: Honor the Lord, you children of God,
honor the Lord for his glory and strength.

**People: Honor the Lord for the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.**

Leader: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord is enthroned as King forever.

**People: The Lord gives his people strength.
The Lord blesses his people with peace.**

*Opening Hymn #511

Gather Us In

*Denotes all who are able, please stand

*Opening Prayer and 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN

We Hear The Word

Old Testament Lesson

I Chronicles 16:23-36

Let the whole earth sing to the LORD!

Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.

Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.

Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!

He is to be feared above all gods.

The gods of other nations are mere idols,

but the LORD made the heavens!

Honor and majesty surround him;

strength and joy fill his dwelling.

O nations of the world, recognize the LORD,

recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong.

Give to the LORD the glory he deserves!

Bring your offering and come into his presence.

Worship the LORD in all his holy splendor.

Let all the earth tremble before him.

The world stands firm and cannot be shaken.

Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice!

Tell all the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise!

Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy!

Let the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD,

for he is coming to judge the earth.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

Cry out, "Save us, O God of our salvation!"

Gather and rescue us from among the nations,

so we can thank your holy name

and rejoice and praise you."

Praise the LORD, the God of Israel,
who lives from everlasting to everlasting!

And all the people shouted "Amen!" and praised the LORD.

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-29

That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side." Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

"My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God.**

*Hymn #310

He is Lord

We Respond

Reading

Sarah Young, *Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence*

Prayers of the People (Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**)

Morning Prayer

The Work

Discussion: "What is your plan for your worship life if there are no services at Covenant Community Church?"

We Are Sent

*Benediction

*Benediction Response (please stand & turn to face each other as we sing)

ALL: *The LORD bless you and keep you,
the LORD make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you,
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you, give you, give you peace.*

Leader: Go in Peace, to Love and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Helping Us Worship

Worship Leaders:

Gary Coryer, Karen Zidovsky, Josy Moore

Scripture Readers:

Marcia Morrell, Carolyn Carlson

Tech Team:

Doug Morrell, Don Turner, Wayne Border

Announcements

Ecumenical Food Shelf Distribution, Saturday April 20, 8:30-10:30 AM at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Jericho.

Essex Jericho Underhill Ecumenical Food Shelf Needs: The EJU Food Shelf is running low on pretty much everything! Our church is "mac and cheese and canned veggies". Any non-perishable food or cash donations are graciously accepted! Food or cash donations can once again be dropped off at church on the shelf next to the doors in the Narthex or at the food donation boxes at Hannafords, Price Chopper in Essex, or the Jericho Market. If you have any questions, talk with Susan T.



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