WELCOME TO ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH April 7, 2024

2nd Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements and Prelude

*(Congregation please stand as able)

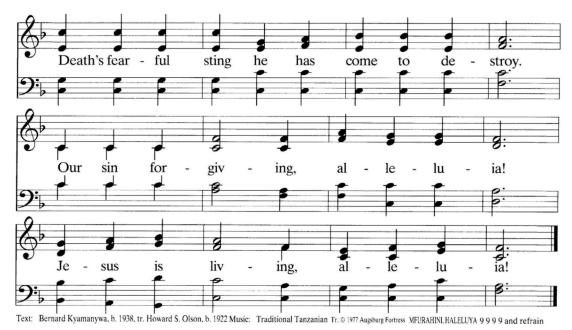
*PROCLAMATION OF EASTER GOOD NEWS! (x3)

P: Christ is Risen!

Congregation: He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

*Gathering Hymn: WOV 678 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia v.1,2,4 You are invited to face the rear of the sanctuary and turn towards the cross as it passes

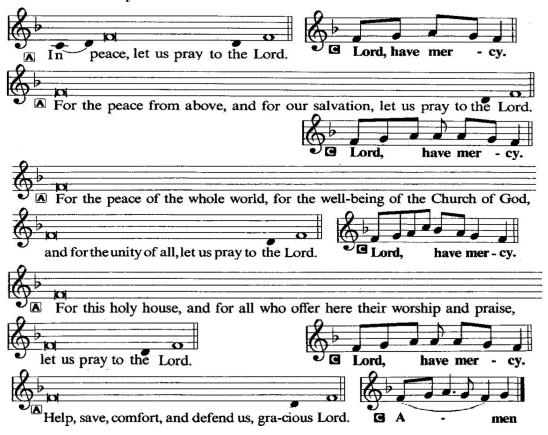




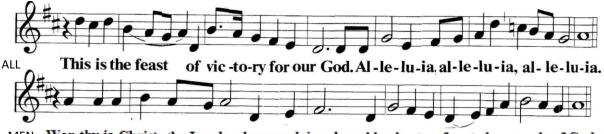
*Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. C: And also with you.





*Hymn of Praise





*Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READING: Acts 4:32-35 (pg. 888 in pew Bible, next)

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

PSALM: Psalm 133 (pg. 501 in pew Bible, next) (read responsively)

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

Congregation: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

L: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

C: For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life for evermore.

CHILDREN'S SERMON as the children come forward, please join in singing: (tune: Jesus Loves the Little Children)

Jesus rose for all the children, all the children of the world, every color, shape, and size, they are precious in His eyes, Jesus rose for all the children of the world.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Gospel: John 20:19-31 (pg. 883 in pew Bible)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 20th Chapter. Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

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.'

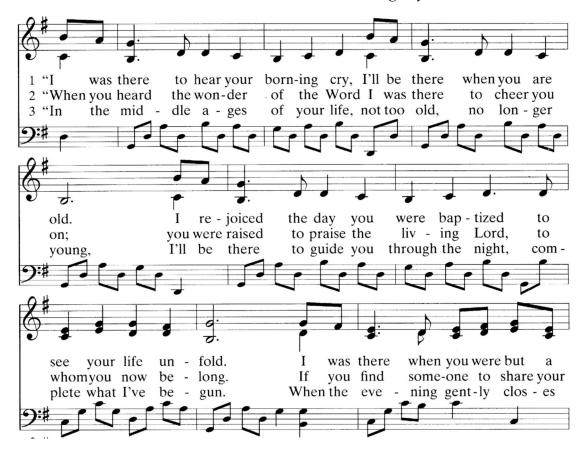
A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' 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.

After the reading: P: The Gospel of our Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*Hymn of the day: WOV 770 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry





BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors: We present Hannah Jo Trimmer for baptism.

P: Hannah, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

Hannah: I do.

The parents are addressed:

Mac and Rosanne, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Hannah baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring *your child* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,

bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in her hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P: Do you promise to help Hannah grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: I do.

The sponsors are addressed:

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Hannah in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

The assembly is addressed:

P: People of God, do you promise to support Hannah and pray for her in her new life in Christ? *Response*: We do.

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: I ask you, together with the whole gathered assembly, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 was buried; he descended to the dead. 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 to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM

Hannah, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

P: Sustain Hannah with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized.

Hannah, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen

WELCOME

A lighted candle is given to each of the newly baptized.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

P: As we welcome Hannah into the body of Christ, we also welcome to Zion's Mac and Rosanne, who come to us from other congregations. Rosanne and Mac, you have already made public profession of your faith. In your baptism, you were welcomed into the body of Christ, and into the mission we share. Together we are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Rosanne and Mac: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Rosanne and Mac and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

P: Let us welcome Hannah to the family of God, together with Rosanne and Mac whom we welcome to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

OUR OFFERINGS: OUR TRUST, PRAYERS & GIFTS

*Prayers of the People (after, "Lord in your mercy," respond: Hear our prayer.)
(after final petition, "Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.", respond: Amen.)

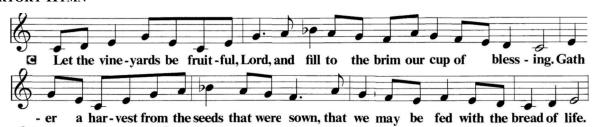
*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

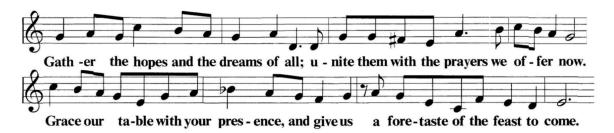
P: The peace of Christ be with you. C: And also with you.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

During this portion of the worship service, we offer to God a portion of what God has first given us, trusting that God will use these gifts to do God's work in the world. We offer thanks to God with financial gifts, song, and prayer. Or you can scan this QR code to go to our electronic giving website: http://www.zionsjonestown.com/giving/, where you can choose to give either through PayPal, or Simply Giving, which is our regular electronic offering service, offering both one-time, and regular, automatic options.

*Offertory Hymn





*Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Risen one, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

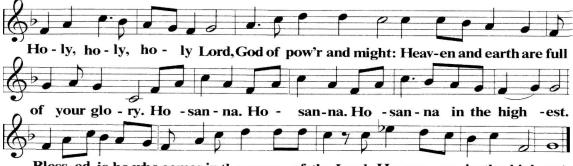
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, Holy, Holy



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high-est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION and CONSECRATION

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance for me. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

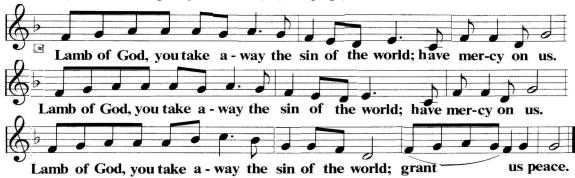
P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

This is the Lord's table where all are welcome. At the ushers instruction, you are invited to come forward, pick up either a pre-filled grape juice cup, or empty communion cup, and kneel or stand at the communion railing. (gluten free wafers are available for those who need that, please let Pastor know when you are communing) Here, you will first receive the bread, and then either a blessing of your grape juice, or the wine poured into your glass. After consuming both elements, return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your empty glass in the tray.

Those who are worshipping at home this morning are invited to **pray this prayer**, trusting that Christ's spiritual presence is with you at all times and places. If you would like Pastor Caitlin to bring communion to your home, call her at 717 865 3652 and she will be glad to do so.

"Loving Jesus, since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine according to your promise in the sacrament of Holy Communion, I ask you to come to me in Spirit. Feed me, for I am hungry; strengthen me, for I am weak; enliven and sanctify me with Your sacred Body and Blood. Deliver me from all sin and make me always obedient to Your commands. Let me never be separated from You, my Savior, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God forever and ever. Amen."

Lamb of God (Based on Gospel of John 1:29) (next page)



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: #675 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

(blue book) #693 Baptized in Water

#687 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

*Post Communion Prayer and Sending of Communion

P: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

*Blessing

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia

P: God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and always. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: ELW 543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing (next page)

As the cross is recessed, you are invited to turn your body towards the rear, symbolic of our desire to follow Christ out into the world.

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Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 AR HYD Y NOS 84848884 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House Arr. © Oxford University Press

*DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

We're glad you're here! Whether today is your first day at Zion's, or your thousandth, we're glad you're here, and we look forward to worshiping with you. If you're new, or it's been a while, we invite you to fill out one of the "We're glad you're here" white envelopes located in the pew back to ensure our records are correct, and so we can connect with you further. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate.

This week we especially remember in our prayers: Sandy Kohr, Ben Glass, Anna Houser, Katie Smith, Jean Fowler, Eddie Hudson Jr. and family, Pastor Ted Hummel, and the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine.

MUSICIAN: Maryann Guldin
VIDEOGRAPHER: James Cascarino

LECTOR: Terry Ludwig
PRAYER: Joanna Guldin-Noll

ACOLYTES: Derek Wolfe, Madelyn Rittle Comm. Asst.: Linda Wenrich, Eva Frank Crucifer: Rob McOuaide Children's Sermon: Joanna Guldin-Noll

ZIONS PASTOR: Rev. Caitlin M. Kurtz

APRIL USHERS: Luke Hiester, Darryl Bush, Al Reiner, Rick Herr

Lector: Jim Gill

Children Sermon: Ed Ludwig

Comm. Asst.: Deb Long, Kelly Rittle

Prayer: John Mohn

Acolytes: Daryl Root, Annabella Hess

Crucifer: Mason Livingston

Welcome, Hadley Williams, to the Lord's Table! Today, Hadley will be receiving her first Holy Communion. We rejoice to welcome her to the sacrament, and also extend a word of welcome to her family who is visiting today to celebrate this milestone.

Welcome, Trimmer Family, as new members! Today we also welcome Hannah Trimmer into the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism, and we welcome her parents, Rosanne and Mac, into membership here at Zion's. We look forward to worshiping, serving, and learning with you!

This Week at Zions:

Monday, April 8 @ 6:30 p.m. Worship & Music committee meets on Zoom

Wednesday, April 10 @ 9:00 a.m. Quilting

Wednesday, April 10, Community meal @ 5:30 p.m., followed by Rejoicing Spirits at 6:15, and Bible study at 6:50.

Saturday, April 13 @ 9:00 a.m. Babies & Bibles will meet in the basement. Children, birth through age 4 (plus adults and older siblings) are invited!

Sunday, April 14 @ 10:15 Nursery will open until the end of worship.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday night Bible study resumes this Wednesday, April 10, at 6:50 PM. We will be reading through 1 John (which is different than the Gospel of John!) These are texts that you'll hear in worship throughout the season of Easter.

Zion's Nursery will be open for children 0-3 from 10:15 until the end of worship on Sundays, April 14, and May 19 (This will be the last one until Sept).

Spring has sprung! Help us spruce up Zion's outdoor spaces on Saturday, April 20 beginning at 1 pm. We'll be laying mulch, wiping down windowsills, and working on other outdoor projects. Please bring a wheelbarrow, shovel, or rake if you have them, and plan to stay as long as your schedule allows. Thank you!

Women of Zion's, put on your dancing shoes and join us for an afternoon of line dancing as we prepare to get down, boogie, and support our friends, church family, and neighbors at the May DDS Dance. On April 21, join us right after church to learn (or relearn!) old standards like the Electric Slide and Macarena and newer party dances like the Cupid Shuffle and the Wobble. A light lunch will be provided. Not into dancing? No problem! Come and enjoy the fellowship. Help us plan by RSVPing on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area. Questions? Contact Maryann Guldin.

Kate Bowler, an author oft-quoted by Pastor Caitlin, is coming to Gettysburg! Kate writes a lot about the intersection of faith and life and is the author of "Good Enough: 40ish devotions for a life of imperfection". "The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days", and "Have a beautiful, Terrible Day". She'll be one of the keynote speakers on Wednesday April 24 at the Seminary, and we're going to take a road trip! More information is posted on the bulletin board, where you can also sign up for the carpool.

Interested in Mission Trip work, right here in our community? Want to share a day, or a week of your time? The Lutheran churches in Lebanon County are coming together to serve at our beloved Camp Kirchenwald June 23-29. Projects include gardening at the Wittel Farm, constructing sheds for some of the camp equipment, painting, and more. Skilled and unskilled volunteers ages 14 and up are welcome, for however many days during the week you'd like to serve. Pastor Caitlin plans to be there on Tuesday, June 25, and would love company! More information is available on the bulletin board, or by emailing Pastor for a registration form. The cost per day is \$10 (covers lunch) or \$425 for the week (including meals and lodging). Sign up today on the large bulletin board!

Other News from Zions:

A note from Pastor Caitlin: There are a number of high-tech SCAMS going around right now, especially targeting churches. The most common one is that people receive texts or emails, supposedly from "Pastor Caitlin", asking for you to urgently go out and buy gift cards and then send the gift card information to "the Pastor". Please know that I would never solicit your help like that. If you ever get an odd-sounding communication "from the Pastor" please call the Church Office, or send a separate email or text message (not replying back to what they sent you) to verify. I am grateful for your generous, always-ready-to-help hearts, and I would hate for you to be cheated in this way.

Did you know? Every Friday, at 11:30 AM, an email entitled "**Zion's Weekly E-Blast**:[And the date]" goes out to our email list, from Pastor Caitlin's email, which appears as pastorckurtz@send.mailchimpapp.com This email contains a weekly pastoral message, announcements, photos, and links. Your email may be sending it to "spam", but you should be able to teach it to send it to your inbox instead. If you need help, or want to be added to the list, please see Pastor Caitlin.

Learn to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Zion's has a quilt-making group called "**Peace Through Pieces**" hat meets MOST Wednesdays at 9 AM in the Social Hall to work on large blankets for LWR and smaller ones for our preschool graduates. They are always accepting fabric donations of any size, and love to welcome newcomers! You don't have to have any experience with fabric or thread--they'll teach you what you need to know! If you're interested in learning more, or want to confirm a meeting date, please contact Judy Merkel: 717 269 3532 or johnjudymerkel@comcast.net

An **USHER sign-up** sheet has been posted on the large bulletin board in the gathering area. If you can share your gifts as an usher, please sign-up!

Zion's is looking for **GREETERS**. Please contact Noel Strattan if you are able to share your gifts in this way, or click the link on our weekly email.

Council Highlights: March council highlights are available on the large bulletin board in the gathering area.

Every Week at Zions: Sundays @ 9:15 Sunday school for all ages; @ 10:30 Worship Wednesdays @ 5:30 Community meal, @ 6:15 Rejoicing Spirits Worship