

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 12, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Liturgist: Chuck Victor



“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting Liturgist

Prelude

“Amazing Grace” with “Amazing Grace” (“My Chains Are Gone”)

- arr. Page

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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Introit

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Holy One,

Congregation: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: As we have gathered here to worship,
let us stand and greet one another in the
love of Christ.

(Please stand.)

*** Gathering Song** *"This Is the Day"* #652

*This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord has made.*

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

One: In the shadow of empire, we make shelter together

All: We hold each other in grief

One: We make space for righteous anger

All: We bring our fears with honesty

One: Like the disciples huddled together

All: We turn toward community

One: We find our courage together

All: And God meets us here

*Opening Hymn

"The Day of Resurrection" # 298

EASTER

298

The Day of Resurrection!

C F/C C C/Bb F/A C/G F G

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth its song be - gin!

G7 C C7 F/C C G/D D7 G

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 The world re - sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

G7 C7 F A7/E D7 G

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend;

G/F C/E Dm7/F C7/G F/A F C/G G7 G C

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "all hail" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our Joy that has no end.

WORDS: John of Damascus, 8th c.; tr. John M. Neale (1818-1866)
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart (1813-1879)

LANCASHIRE
 7.6.7.6.D.

***Opening Prayer** Liturgist

Enduring Presence, from this sanctuary, we confront the multitude of powers leaving so many with reasons to be afraid. We long to create shelter for one another, strangers and kin, near and far. We wonder what makes a heart, a community, a church a trustworthy place of refuge. Especially, and intentionally, and adamantly for those facing state violence, old and emerging. Teach us. Undo us. Build us up. That we may be a place to turn, a people who protect, and a community of faithful resistance. Amen.

Special Music

"Come to Jesus" - Rice/Hayes

Duet: Ken and Cindy Dodge

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A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children's Message Wendy Brown

WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

*Hymn of Preparation

"These Things Did Thomas Count"

These Things Did Thomas Count

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984

John 20:19-31

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
2 The vi - sion of his skept - tic mind was keen e -
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the heft of
nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex - pect - ed
live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like
ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached

stone, the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
act too large for his small world of fact.
Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

The author cites his "reading of twentieth-century theology and its coming to terms with the limits of the enlightenment and rational cognition" as the foundational thought for this text.

Tune: DISTRESS L.M.
The Sacred Harp, 1844
Arr. Jonathan McNair, 1993

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HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

Scripture Lessons

Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When 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.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If 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. ²⁵So 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.'²⁷Then 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.'²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus 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. ³¹But 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.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

Sermon

"Building Blocks: Becoming a Believer"
- Rev. Daniel Doty

THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

GIVE ONLINE HERE



Offertory

"My Jesus I Love Thee" with "I Love You, Lord"

- arr. Page

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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(Please stand.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Compassionate One, with these offerings we also bring our anxieties and uncertainties, skepticisms and the great aches that leave us cynical about change. Meet our vulnerabilities with your own, O God. Root our faith not in coercion nor suppression, but in authentic connection and solidarity. That we may rise as a community to the calling of these days. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

***Closing Hymn**

"He Lives" #302

(words and music on pages 9 and 10)

***Benediction**

***Congregation Response**

**"Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love."**

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude

"Lift High the Cross" - Nicholson/Hamlin

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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He Lives

B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat

1 I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2 In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3 Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

D7/A G \flat C7 F7

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er some may say;
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat G \flat /B \flat B \flat

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,

C7 C F/C C7 Am/C C7 F

and just the time I need him he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

WORDS and MUSIC: Alfred H. Ackley (1887-1960), alt.
 Words and Music © 1933, Ren. 1962 Word Music

ACKLEY
 13.13.13.11.Ref.

Refrain Bb Bb7 Eb Bb

He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
he lives, he lives,

Dm F Eb Bb C7 F7

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.

Bb Bb7 Eb Eb7 D

He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
he lives, he lives,

G7 G+ G7 C7 Edim7 Bb F7 Bb

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team:	Diana Fiocca, Anne Pertick, Megan Farnworth
Liturgist:	Chuck Victor
Ushers:	Sandy Haydu, Karen Huth, Kim Darkow, Jane Charles
Greeters:	Joe and Tom Labay

Today's Altar Flowers are provided by:

Donna Marlow *"In memory of Dave Marlow"*

Jim Taylor *"In memory of my wife, Kendal"*

UPCOMING EVENTS

ROOTS & WINGS

Sunday, April 12

4:00 PM

Roots and Wings is a fellowship group for grandparents and grandchildren to grow in faith and friendship. Our next activity is April 12 . We will make summer vision boards so they can check off activities on their list throughout the summer.

BIBLE & BREWS

Wednesday, April 15

7:00 PM

Join Rev. Dan for drinks and discussion at Hoppin' Frog Brewery in Akron.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SPAGHETTI DINNER

Thursday, April 16

4:30—6:30 PM

Join your church family for dinner the 3rd Thursday of the month for our Women's Fellowship Spaghetti Dinners. We have to-go meals available. Call 330-630-0704.

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, April 26

10:00 AM

Mark those calendars! On April 26th, our youth of United Ministry will lead us in worship for Youth Sunday! Plan to join us as we celebrate and honor their message, presence and the gifts they bring to our congregation!

SUMMIT BELLS CONCERT

Monday, May 11

7:00 PM

Join us for a concert on Monday, May 11, at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. The "Summit Bells," directed by Chuck Kobb, will perform hymn arrangements, original handbell music, and a transcription of a Bach organ work and a Scott Joplin rag.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge will offer two membership orientation classes on Sundays, May 24 and 31, at the 9:00am hour before worship. If participants are led to join FCC in membership, the New Member Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, June 7th. Please let the church office know if you are interested. You can email Cathy Cotter, the church's Office Administrator, at info@fcctallmadge.org

SPRING BOOK/BIBLE STUDY

The book for the spring 2026 Book/Bible Study has arrived. We have copies in the office for \$16 each. Remember, there will only be one 12 noon class for the spring study in the David Bacon Room. That study will begin on Wednesday, April 29 and run through May 27.

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm*

The Ashley Family

Debbie B.

The Becking Family

Katie Ann Bickett

Joyce Bojarski

Margarete Boschert

Jim Brown

John Calvarese

Patti Calvarese

Sue Canavan

Jim Caplinger

Mark Clark

Patty Conely

Rylin Davis and family

Sean and Sara Doty

Mark Downey

Elaine Engle

Ron Evans

Debbie Fickes

Bonnie Fordham

Darrell Goodson

Eleanor Hall

Sue Hamilton

Alleen Hilbish

Jim Jackson

Gene Jarjabka

Nancy Johnson

Anita Kelly-Lahrmer

The Klingensmith Family

Zell Lambert

Yvonne Larson

Roberta Lewis

Bob McPherson

Melba Moor

Gary Miller

Ron Mitchell

George Nehrenz

Lynn Norton

Bob Poff

David and Jackie Parker

LTJG John Norton

Heather Read

Richard Reynolds

Alice Sheeler

Eddie Showalter

Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear

Lt. Maxwell Spear

Richard & Karen Thomason

Kim and Noel Walters

Ensign 3 Kaitlyn Wetter

Don Woerz

Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*

Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*

Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Fridays—9:00 am—12:00 pm

IN PERSON | PARKING LOT | ONLINE WORSHIP

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

85 HERITAGE DR | TALLMADGE, OH 44278