

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 28, 2019

2nd Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m.

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

As you arrive in the sanctuary, please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.

*those who are comfortable, please stand

GATHERING

PRELUDE *This Joyful Eastertide* 17th Century Dutch Melody

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 118):

One: The Lord is our strength and our might;

Many: The Lord has become our salvation!

One: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

Many: The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

One: We shall not die, but we shall live,

Many: And recount the deeds of the Lord.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** *The Day of Resurrection!* No. 233

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray.

Unison: Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*Cantor sings responses through first, followed by the congregation*)

"Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;

Alleluia, alleluia, sing praise to His name." (repeat)

***SHARING THE PEACE**

(Share the peace of Christ as you feel led, with a wave, a smile, a kind word, or a handshake.)

THE WORD

TIME FOR GROWING DISCIPLES

(At the conclusion of the Time for Growing Disciples, children ages birth to 3rd grade may stay in worship or go to the nursery.)

ANTHEM *Peace Be Unto This Congregation* Althouse
Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 118:14-29
(see insert)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 20:19-31
(see insert)

SERMON Max Hill

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison) The 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 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.

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.

***HYMN**

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

No. 255

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

(Please sign the Friendship Register found at the end of the pew. Complete information, including your email, and pass pad along to those worshiping with you.)

***Prayer of Dedication**

Offertory *Holy Ground* Davis

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness, and your invitation to join in!)

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN**

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

No. 817

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Christ Has Risen

Welsh Melody

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church



Sunday, April 28, 2019

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

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www.oakhillpcusa.org

Worship Notes

The Season of Easter

Easter isn't just a Sunday — it's a *season*. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a “week of weeks”), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord.

The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church. If your congregation doesn't already celebrate the Lord's Supper (a feast with the risen Lord) each week, the season of Easter is an excellent and appropriate time to explore this practice.

Of course, Easter really isn't just a *season* either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life — in which we are “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 6:11), called to “walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4). Every year, for fifty days, the church celebrates and rehearses this new way of life in the Season of Easter — as we await its completion in the fullness of Christ's reign.

A week of Sundays

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 117)

For seven weeks, a week of Sundays, we acclaim the resurrection of Christ by the power of God. The period of seven weeks of jubilation can be traced back to its Jewish roots of the fifty days celebrated from the day after Passover to Shavuot (Feast of Weeks, Exodus 23:16). For Jews, the Feast of Weeks closed the season of harvest, which had been initiated by the Feast of Unleavened Bread. In a similar manner, early Christians observed a fifty-day period of celebration from Easter to the Day of Pentecost. To underscore the uninterrupted rejoicing of these fifty days, fasting and kneeling in prayer were forbidden at least as early as the end of the second century. On the *pentecoste* (“fiftieth”) day, not only was the fifty-day period concluded, but a festival with its own proper content was celebrated. The Jews observed a feast of covenant renewal and eventually commemorated the giving of the Law. Christians celebrated the gift of the Spirit as preparing the way for the day of the Lord. What Moses and the Law did for the Jewish community, the Holy Spirit now does for the community of Christ.

- From <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/season-easter/>

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

Rev. Erin Counihan, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers, Parish Associate

Ms. Susan Brown, Minister of Music

Ms. Annie Girresch, Director, AMEN St. Louis

Ms. Carole Adams, Secretary

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 noon in writing.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

April 28, 2019

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	Following Worship	Time of Fellowship (and snacks)
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Pause
Wednesday	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study Class in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	5:00 p.m.	Worship and Christian Education Committee Meeting in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism and Membership Committee Meeting in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	7:30 p.m.	Touchy Topics Book and Discussion Group of Hartford Coffee
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Circle 3 in the Theleos Room
Saturday	9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Presbytery Gathering at First Presbyterian Church in Cape Girardeau, MO

We welcome you to worship at Oak Hill. We greet everyone in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and celebrate the gift of God's incarnate love through our worship and service.

We hope you will stay and join us for a time of fellowship after worship today. We'll gather downstairs for coffee and snacks!

For more information about what's happening at Oak Hill, don't forget to check out our website at www.oakhillpcusa.org.

This morning we welcome Max Hill to Oak Hill. Max is a candidate for the position of Pastor of UKirk - St. Louis. UKirk, or "university church," is the PC (USA) Campus Ministry at Washington University in St. Louis & Saint Louis University and is open to college-aged students around the St. Louis area.

Max is currently a student at Princeton Theological Seminary where he will graduate with his Master of Divinity degree in May. Max received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism/Political Science from the University of Arkansas in 2015. His recent experience includes internships with Maryland Presbyterian Church in Towson, MD, as the Student Minister for Contextual Engagement, Community Outreach and LGBTQ Belonging, the Brick Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, Broad Street Ministry, Philadelphia, PA, and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations. In addition, Max was the creator and facilitator of Uncommon Worship, a New Worshipping Community in Fayetteville, AR. We are grateful for his leadership in worship today.

Today's Worship Leaders are **Max Hill and the Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers**. Greeters are **Toby Eckert and Karl Kelley**. Ushers are **Wendy Barrow, Brian Beckmann, Lisa Thompson, and Rich Wiethop**. Nursery Caregivers are **Eva Bischoff and Matt Hanify**. **The Mission Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in April.

As a church family, we shall be praying this morning and all week for the following members and friends. You may wish to contact them to indicate your interest and ask if they have any special prayer concerns.

Brent, Millie, Lucie, and Gretchen Crittenden and Sarah Gibson
Anne and Steve Stoltz
Richard Wiethop

If you have a specific prayer request to share with the congregation, please fill out the yellow prayer request form in the pew and place it in the offering plate. For prayers and congregational support during the week, call Pastor Erin or the church office.

Pastor Erin will be out of the office until April 30. She is leading a series of workshops on community ministry with University Presbyterian Church at Mo Ranch Presbyterian Assembly in Texas. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact the Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers.

On Thursday, May 2, Mary Pollock from Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services will come to Circle 3's meeting to tell us about the work they do and to receive a donation of stuffed bears made by the Circle. If you would like to come and hear her speak, she will be with us at about 11 a.m. If you are able to join us for lunch, please let Jan Stanford or Carole Adams know you are planning to stay. Lunch will be provided and served at about noon.

Fellowship Luncheon – The Worship and Christian Education Committee is hosting the May 5 fellowship luncheon. It will be true potluck. Please bring a dish to share.

Inquirers and New Members Lunch: On May 5, after worship, at our regular Potluck Luncheon, the Evangelism and Membership Committee will have a special table set up for anyone interested in learning about membership here at Oak Hill. If you have questions about being a Presbyterian, what membership entails, the very difficult written test all members have to pass (this is a joke), how our church is governed, or, really anything else, come and sit with us! Pastor Erin and a few elders (see, we'll even tell you what it means to be an elder) will lead a casual conversation and answer any questions.

On Sunday, May 5, the Adult Sunday School Class will resume its study on what the Bible really says on LGBTQ issues. All Sunday School classes will finish up for the year by Memorial Day.

Micah 6:8 Camp for Middle Schoolers - June 17-21 2019, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

AMEN St. Louis and Oak Hill Presbyterian Church are thrilled to offer our first ever "Micah 6:8 Camp" for middle schoolers from the St. Louis metropolitan area. This one-of-a-kind day camp will offer your kiddos a chance to learn more about the Bible and their faith, to do service projects for community organizations, and to learn about social justice and becoming an agent for change.

From 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day, campers will complete service projects at local non-profit organizations, explore their faith formation, and hear from diverse leaders in the community about standing up for social justice. And, of course, we'll have lots of fun, too!

Cost is sliding scale, \$75-\$175. Lunch, snacks and transportation to and from service sites are included each day. Age range includes rising 6th to rising 9th graders. Go to www.amenstlouis.org for more information.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 118:14-29

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;
¹⁶the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”
¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.
¹⁸The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.
¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.
²⁰This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
²¹I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
²³This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.
²⁷The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.
²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.
²⁹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;

People: thanks be to God!

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

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.” ²⁴But 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.”
²⁶A 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.” ³⁰Now 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.

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;

People: thanks be to God!