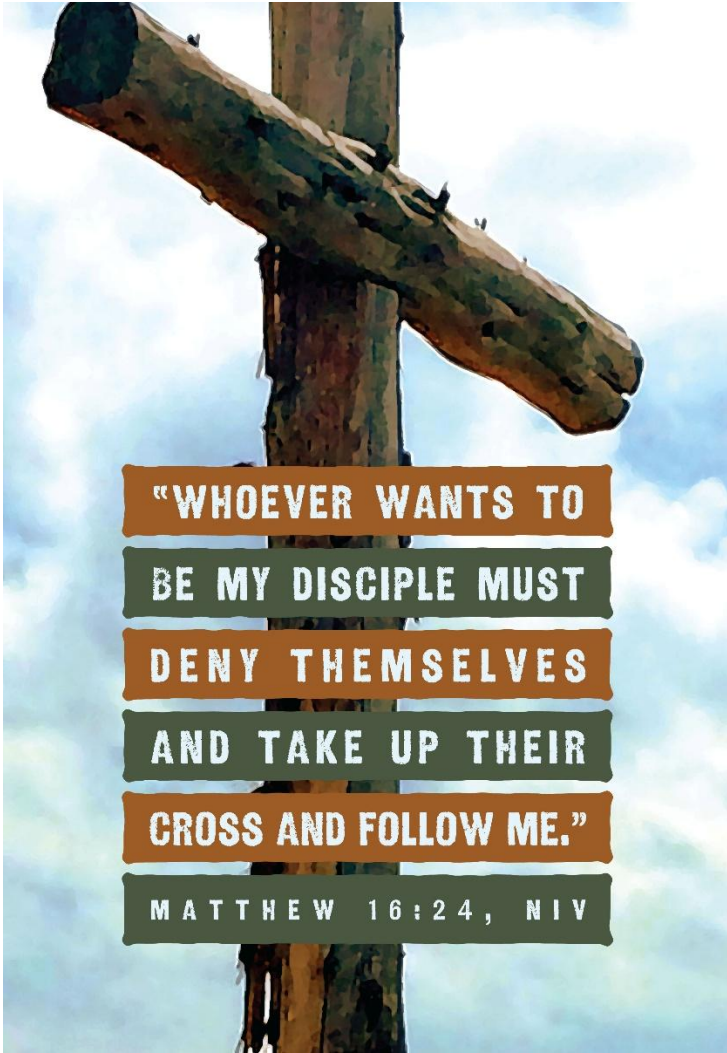


On



**"WHOEVER WANTS TO**

**BE MY DISCIPLE MUST**

**DENY THEMSELVES**

**AND TAKE UP THEIR**

**CROSS AND FOLLOW ME."**

**MATTHEW 16:24, NIV**



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

10:50 a.m.

## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

**Welcome**

*Andrew Wheeler*

**Prelude**

*Max Jackson*

Thine Is the Glory

Noel Rawsthorne

## † Call to Worship

*JT Norris*

Leader: Like the forlorn followers of Jesus at the empty tomb,

**People: We come seeking the living Christ.**

Leader: Like the desolate disciples wandering lost on holy Saturday,

**People: We come to find our way.**

Leader: Like the persecuted apostles,

**People: We come to garnish courage.**

Leader: Like a resurrection people,

**All: We come with gratitude to praise our God. Thanks be to God. Amen!**

## † Hymn of Praise (tune: Hymn to Joy)

#231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died.

As He said and as He promised, as we doubted and denied.

Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;  
let the world confirm the rumor. Christ is risen; God is here!

Christ has risen for the people whom He died to love and save;

Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace His grave

Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.

He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.

Christ is risen. Christ is present making us what He has been –  
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

O God, You give us the gift of Your presence, yet we ignore it. You give us Your word, yet we distort it. You give us Your commandments, yet we disregard them. Jesus did not come to abolish the law; instead, we abolish it in our own hearts. We know that forgiveness is found through You, and so we become complacent. "Thou shalt not" seems peculiar and quaint to our indulgent selves. Forgive us, O God, for our halfhearted discipleship. Let Your commandments thunder in our hearts. Give us the joy to follow You in word and deed. Make us new, and prepare us to be servants of You, the living God, in whose name we pray. Amen.

† Assurance of Pardon

† Response

#245 (3)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!  
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!  
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

**Children's Message**

**Anthem**

*Chancel Choir*

Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise

Robert Powell

Hail the day that sees him rise, to His throne above the skies,  
Christ the Lamb for sinners given, enters now the highest heaven.  
There the glorious triumph waits, lift your heads, eternal gates.  
Christ hath conquered death and sin, take the King of glory in.  
See, he lifts his hands above, see He shows the prints of love.  
Hark! His gracious lips bestow blessings on his church below.  
Lord, beyond our mortal sight, raise our hearts to reach Thy  
heights; There Thy face unclouded see,  
find our heaven of heaven in Thee.

## Prayer for Illumination

### **The Epistle Lesson:** Leviticus 26:3–6, 9–12 (NRSV)

“If you follow My statutes and keep My commandments and observe them faithfully, <sup>4</sup> I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. <sup>5</sup> Your threshing shall overlap the vintage, and the vintage shall overlap the sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full and live securely in your land. <sup>6</sup> And I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no one shall make you afraid; I will remove dangerous animals from the land, and no sword shall go through your land. <sup>9</sup> I will look with favor upon you and make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will maintain My covenant with you. <sup>10</sup> You shall eat old grain long stored, and you shall have to clear out the old to make way for the new. <sup>11</sup> I will place My dwelling in your midst, and I shall not abhor you. <sup>12</sup> I will be your God, and you shall be My people.

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 50**

#13

#### The Mighty God with Power Speaks

The Mighty God, with power speaks, and all the world obeys;  
from dawn until the setting sun, God's wonder earth displays.  
The perfect beauty all around from Zion's height shines forth,  
and stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

God comes not with a silent form, but riding on the winds;  
before God's face, the raging storm its blasts of thunder sends.

All hail the Judge, in bold array, whose promise is to bless;  
Who sees our sins yet also feels our thirst for righteousness.

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky;  
against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify.

Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks, as honor to Your might.  
Refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

### † **The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 16:21–28 (NRSV)

From that time on, Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the

elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to You." <sup>23</sup> But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told His disciples, "If any wish to come after Me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup> "For the Son of Man is to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ!     **P: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

*Andrew Wheeler*

***Checkmate!***

✦ **We Respond to God's Word** ✦

† **Hymn of Response**

#729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

→

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 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 quick 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.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The 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.**

**Offering Acknowledgement**

*Special Offering: CARES*

† **Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Refrain: *Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee:  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

I am weak, but Thou art strong;  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
as I walk, let me walk close to Thee. [Refrain]

Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. [Refrain]

When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to Thy shore, dear Lord, to Thy shore. [Refrain]

**Postlude**

Voluntary in B Flat

Maurice Greene

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing as you are able.*

**SERVING TODAY**

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni*

Liturgist: *JT Norris*

**LAST WEEK'S RECAP**

Attendance: 128

General Offering: \$3,063.00

Building Rent: \$150.00

Easter Flowers: \$30.00

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$100.00

Online Offering: \$125.00

**Total Offering: \$3,468.00**

## IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### ► Sunday, April 27

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.  
Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.  
Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

**Earth Care Reception/Noon**

**Genesis Bible Study, 5:30 p.m. will resume 5/18**

### ► Monday, April 28

**Empty Nesters, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Sew Blessed, 6 p.m.**

### ► Tuesday, April 29

**Session meeting, 5:30 p.m.**

### ► Wednesday, April 30

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans  
Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

### ► Thursday, May 1

**National Day of Prayer**  
**Paper Angels, 1 p.m.**

### College Care Packages



The Empty Nesters group is organizing a care package initiative for our college students during the month of April. We will have boxes available in the Narthex for anyone who would like to contribute. If you're interested in participating, please feel free to drop off a note of

encouragement, a treat, or a gift card to help our students get through their final exams. Your support can make a big difference during this stressful time.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 2025

# Pour Out to the God of Hope and Be Filled

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace  
in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power  
of the Holy Spirit.*

—Romans 15:13 NASB

THURSDAY, MAY 1 • 8:30 A.M.  
Highlands Museum and Discovery Center  
1620 Winchester Ave., Ashland, Ky.

*Free parking is available on Winchester Avenue and in the 17th  
Street parking garage. From the garage, take 6th floor pedestrian  
bridge to the museum. Limited accessible parking is available on  
the 6th floor.*



**Scan to RSVP by Tuesday, April 29!**

or email [DG\\_PastoralCare@kdmc.kdhs.us](mailto:DG_PastoralCare@kdmc.kdhs.us)  
or call (606) 408-1745



## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Week ending April 24, 2025

Anna Call (Nanette)

Don Lilly

Mikayla Montgomery (Nanette's niece)

### Week ending April 17, 2025

Eric Patterson (Kris Adkins)

Harriet Pedersen (Kris Adkin's niece)

### Week ending April 10, 2025

Bob Poore

***Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.***

**Ongoing:** Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Lee Hall; Charlie Holbrook; Dr. Matthew Lewis; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

**Kingsbrook Care Center:** Barry Barbour

**The Lantern:** Carolyn Graber

**Military:** Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Kuwait); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

# Puzzle!

First, write the word that fits each definition. Then transfer those letters to the correct numbered lines below, completing John 20:17 (NIV). Finally, unscramble the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. Water that falls from the sky                      
1   2   3   4
2. Birds lay these in a nest                      
5   6   7   8
3. A newly hatched hen                      
9   10   11   12   13
4. These bloom in spring                              
14   15   16   17   18   19   20
5. A caterpillar transformed                                          
21   22   23   24   25   26   27   28   29
6. Dirt mixed with water                  
30   31   32

J                                   " I              
5   8   31   20   8   2   3   32   2   30

                                                                     
2   20   12   25   4   32   11   4   6   24   16   30   29

F                                                                      
2   23   10   18   26   2   4   32   29   16   22   1

F                                                 G              
2   24   10   25   19   23   16   30   29   16   32

                                    G                                      
2   4   32   29   16   31   1   16   32

John 20:17, NIV

Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ !

Answers: rain; eggs, chick, flowers, butterfly, mud; Jesus said "... "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." (John 20:17, NIV) Jesus has risen!

## STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*  
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*  
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*  
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*  
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

## SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*  
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*  
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
*2nd term of service		

## MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org