

“Blessed
are those who
have not seen
and yet have
come to
BELIEVE.”

John 20:29, NRSV



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Alec Wyton

Call to Worship

Ellen Sharp

Leader: Jesus asks of us today, "Who do you say that I am?"

People: You are the Messiah, the blessed One of God.

Leader: But who do you really say that I am?

People: You are our Messiah, our Lord, Savior, Friend and the Giver of abundant life.

Leader: Jesus says, "Come and follow, I will help you carry your burdens and live fully."

People: We now praise God for Jesus, our Lord and Savior, and for all the opportunities to grow in faith and live in abundance.

† **Hymn of Easter** (tune: Kingsfold)

#53

O God Who Gives Us Life

O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:

deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from You.

Help us to know Your Spirit still is making all things new.

O God, who calls Your people out to venture and to dare,
to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find You even there:
when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies,
refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.

O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame,
Your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak Your name.

Yet we by faith are drawn to You and will Your people prove,
as on our hearts You write anew the covenant of love.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

O Holy God of Promise, we so often place our trust in the things we can see, touch and easily believe. But You did not ask us to believe what is easy. You have asked us to believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways You work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways that seem so impossible to believe. Help us to look in faith, open our hearts, and set aside our doubts. For the sake of Christ, 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

Lisa Stevens

Anthem

Chancel Choir

O Death, Where is Thy Sting?

John Stainer; Ar. Clinton Davis

O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory?
Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord,
Jesus Christ. Amen. Halleluia!

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 53:1–6 (NRSV)

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For He grew up before Him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him. ³ He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity, and as one from whom others hide their face He was despised, and we

continued next page →

held Him of no account. ⁴ Surely, He has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we accounted Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

L: The Word of the Lord

P: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 95

#386

Come, Worship God

Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor;
enter God's presence with thanks and a song!

You are the rock of Your people's salvation
to whom our jubilant praises belong.

Ruled by Your might are the heights of the mountains;
held in Your hands are the depths of the earth.

Yours is the sea, Yours the land, for You made them,
God above all gods, who gave us our birth.

We are Your people, the sheep of Your pasture;

You are our Maker, and to You we pray.

Gladly we kneel in obedience before You;
great is the One whom we worship this day!

Now let us listen, for You speak among us;

open our hearts to receive what You say.

Peace be to all who remember Your goodness,

trust in Your word, and rejoice in Your way!

† **The Gospel Lesson**

John 20: 24–29 (NRSV)

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ 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." 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." ²⁷ 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." ²⁸ Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ 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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord! **P: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Pollack

When Unbelief Meets Faith

✠ We Respond to God's Word ✠

† **Hymn of Response** (tune: Azmon)

#817

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch Your hands and side, nor follow where You trod;
but in Your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on You when You are near and seek where You are found.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold You as You are, with full and endless sight.

† **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** ✠

† **Hymn of Sending**

#686

God of Our Life

God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in Thee.
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
we own Thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

God of the past, our times are in Thy hand, with us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land. Be Thou, our guide.
With Thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
and faith's fair vision changes into sight.

God of the coming years, through paths unknown, we follow Thee.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.
Be Thou for us in life our daily bread,
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

Closing Voluntary

Max Jackson

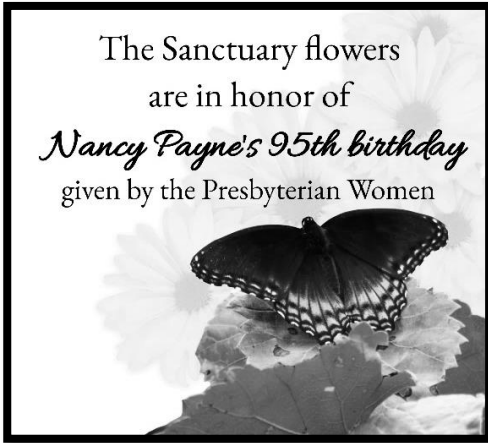
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Paul Manz

† **Benediction**

† *Standing if you are able.*

The Sanctuary flowers
are in honor of
Nancy Payne's 95th birthday
given by the Presbyterian Women



SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Kim Whitman* | Liturgist: *Ellen Sharp*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 60

General Offering: \$896.00

Backpack Ministry: \$20.00

Clean Start: \$20.00

Rummage Sale: \$607.25

Online Offering: \$163.71

Total Offering: \$1,796.96

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

► **Sunday, April 28**

Sunday Morning Study, 9:18 a.m. | Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Children/Youth Membership Class, Noon

Genesis Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

► **Monday, April 29**

Empty Nesters, 5:30 p.m. (last meeting until August 26)

► **Tuesday, April 30**

Session Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

► **Wednesday, May 1**

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Sanctuary Open for Prayer/5:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

► **Thursday, May 2**

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

Upcoming Congregational Meeting

We will conduct our Congregational Meeting, **Sunday, May 12** following morning worship. This is for all members of the congregation. Please make plans to attend.

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 12 will be an extra special day in the life of our congregation. During the worship service we will welcome 13 new members into our congregation. Please be in prayer for each of them as they continue growing in their faith. There will be a reception immediately following morning worship.

Summer Horizon Bible Study: Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation

Mondays from 4:30 –6 p.m. June 3–July 29. Cost is \$10. Contacts: Ann Wiseman, Bettie George Frye, or Kathleen Filkins
Please let us know of your interest as soon as possible so books can be ordered.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending April 25, 2024

Joe Lane (Lee McCloud's father)
Baby Luna (Holli & Keith McClelland's foster daughter)
Family of Phyllis Pennington (Nanette)
Wilma Potter
(Lois Jackson's sister and Pam & Roger Potter's sister-in-law)
Sharon Slusher (Steve Jackson's sister-in-law)

Week ending April 18, 2024

Family of Kyle Call (Nanette & Pastor Bill)
Matt Dillon
Lee Hall
Family of Mark Hickman (Bob Hickman's brother)
Johnny Justice (Jane Justice's stepson)
Bob Miller (Cabell Huntington Hospital)
Margaret Ruth (Kelly Hanni)
Tay Thomas & family
Greg Willis

Week ending April 11, 2024

Kim Harper (Judy & Dave Eby's daughter)
Jane Justice

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

Ongoing: Gretchen Dillon; Charlie Holbrook; Kenny McGill, Derek Payne; Nancy Payne, Bonnie Pettijohn, Tim Shephard, Jan Winans, Kim Whitman, Ann Wiseman

The Lantern: Barry Barbour

Morning Pointe: Carolyn Graber

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

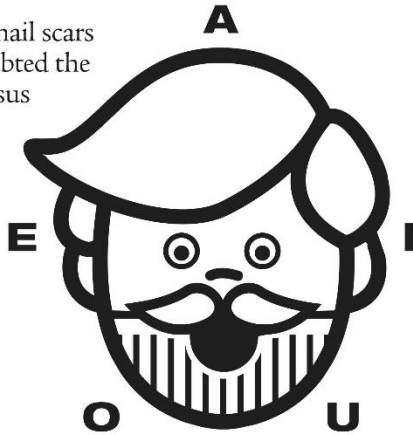
PUZZLE



SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

Directions:
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete
John 20:29, NIV.



“B_c__s__y__ h_v_s__n m__,
 y__ h_v__ b_l__v_d;
 bl_ss_d__r__th_s__ wh__ h_v__n__t
 s__n__nd y__t h_v__ b_l__v_d.”

JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” John 20:29, NIV

Sermon Notes

today is: _____

sermon title: _____

key verses: _____

Notes

worship songs: _____

Prayers

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*

2024	2025	2026
<i>Lee McCloud</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>
<i>J.T. Norris</i>	<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>
<i>Cathy Wilson*</i>	<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>
		*2nd term of service

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>TBD</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.



P.O. Box 1 | 1600 Winchester Avenue | Ashland, Kentucky 41101
office@fpcaky.org | www.fpcaky.org | 606.324.4122
Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org