

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

2nd Sunday of Easter

Celebrate Recovery Sunday

April 16, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Won* Charles Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Our Lord overcame death through Jesus Christ!

People: He opened to us the gate of everlasting life.

Liturgist: Christ's work on the cross made it possible for us to be made right with God.

People: Grant that we may live as new creations in Christ, faithful in all our ways.

All: We celebrate the resurrection- today and every day!

*HYMN *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* No. 304

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection.**

Allow us, as your disciples, to experience the fullness of life offered to us through Christ. Fill us, we pray, and empower us to be your Easter people, dedicated to serving you in all our ways. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Change My Heart, O God* Espinosa/ arr. Mark Hayes
Piano Solo, Elizabeth Breneman

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Isaiah 61:1-3 and Hebrews 12:1-3*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*SUNG RESPONSE

He Lives

**He lives, (He lives) He lives, (He lives) Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, (He lives) He lives (He lives), salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.**

MESSAGE *"Surrender to Freedom"* Jason Gillhoolley

*HYMN *I Surrender All* No. 354

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+The Serenity Prayer

Unison: **God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting
hardship as a pathway to peace, taking as He did, this sinful world as it is
and not as I would have it, trusting that He will make all things right if I
surrender to His will, that I may be reasonably happy in this life and
supremely happy with Him forever in the next. Amen.**

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Organ Response

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!* Wilbur held

*Congregational Response *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* No. 298

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.**

*HYMN *This is a Day of New Beginnings* (vs. 1-4) No. 383

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Our God is a God of new beginnings and fresh starts. Our God is a God who offers a path forward for all who seek him- a path that is full of joy, love and freedom.

People: **May we discover true freedom starting today!**

All: **Amen.**

***ORGAN RESPONSE**

***POSTLUDE**

Easter Fanfares

Robert Lau

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

*The Altar flowers this morning are presented by Ron and Sue Brewer
to the Honor and Glory of God.*

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Pastor Lisa Flory

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

2023 Mission Support

International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery,
Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM),
Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor

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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor

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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Celebration of Faith 



April 16 , 2023

2nd Sunday of Easter

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042

church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

“Surrender to Freedom”
Celebrate Recovery Sunday
Jason Gillhoolley

What does it look like to throw off the weights in life that keep us stuck and keep us moving forward?

Surrender and Freedom- what is the connection between the two?

Often we long for freedom from what weighs us down, but at the same time we resist surrendering our hurts, habits and hang-ups to God? How can we move forward and experience true freedom?

First, recognize that our lives are unmanageable on our own power and we need to turn to God as our source of help.

Second, surrender the very thing we are afraid to let go of, trusting God for healing and forgiveness.

Third, be willing to go deeper, beyond the surface. Allow the Holy Spirit to peel back the layers of hurt, pain and other issues in our lives that have been holding us back. To expose the sins that entangle us.

And finally, stay in the process! Don't become complacent. Keep coming back! And join with others for the support and accountability you need.

Surrender leads to true freedom, found only in Christ!

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NLV)

"For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

Psalms 118:5 (NLT)

"In my distress I prayed to the Lord and the Lord answered me and set me free."

Hebrews 12:1

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

John 8:36 (NLT)

"So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

Galatians 5:1 (NIV)

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Isaiah 61:1 (NCV)

"The Lord God has put his Spirit in me, because the Lord has appointed me to tell the good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort those whose hearts are broken, to tell the captives they are free, and to tell the prisoners they are released."

Calendar for Week of 4/16 /2023

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

MONDAY

10-12 - Staff Meeting

6:00 - Private [Sanctuary]

6:00 CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

TUESDAY

7:00 - Learn & Discern [Lounge]

WEDNESDAY

8:30-11:30 - MLLC [rms 200/202]

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [Sanctuary]

THURSDAY

5:00 - Contemporary Design Team

5:30 - Traditional Design Team

FRIDAY

5-8 - Forge Girls' Night Out check

Youth Announcements

5:30-7:00 - Private [Sanctuary & Hall]

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

9:00—1 - Private [Sanctuary/Hall]

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

1-4 - Private Café/Gathering area

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Group - see Youth Page in the Announcements