

* All who are able may stand

Congregation reads aloud the **BOLD** print

Prelude

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Robin Mayforth, violin; Sinae Lee, piano

arr. Jeremy Strong

Welcome

Pastor Julia Burkley (she/her)

***Call To Worship**

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.
On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.
On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.
But today, we know the good news is alive and well.
The good news is dancing!
The good news is on the loose!
The good news is out in the world, calling your name!
Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.
Let us worship our good-news Christ.

Introit

Why Weepest Thou?
Chancel Choir

J. N. Beck

***Hymn**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

No. 232

Call of Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we want to be Easter people. We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, “Be not afraid,” but we are afraid. And we don’t know where to look. And we are worried we’ll say the wrong thing. So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias.” We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray...
[Time of silent prayer]

***Assurance of Pardon**

Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration: **Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen**

***Response**

Christ the Lord has Risen Today!

No. 245, v. 1

***Sharing the Peace**

Wondering Time

He has Risen! He has Risen Indeed!

Christina Pressley (she/her)

***Hymn**

Christ has Risen! Shout Hosanna!

No. 248
v. 1-all, v. 2-choir only, v. 3-all

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|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Prayer for Illumination | Holy One, all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story. All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting. All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you. So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here. Speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you. Amen. | |
| Scripture Reading | | Matthew 28:1-10 |
| Sermon | “The Good News is Alive in the World” | Pastor Julia Burkley |
| Affirmation of Faith | I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. | |
| Invitation to Offering | | |
| Offertory | The Festal Day is Here! Chancel Choir, congregation on refrain | arr. Hal Hopson |
| *Response | Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks | No. 240, refrain, v. 1, refrain |
| *Prayer of Dedication | Joyful God of Resurrection, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! We offer our hands and feet and voices to take the celebration out of this place into a world that needs hope so desperately! May we go into the world with such energy, excitement, and power that the ground shakes once again, that lightning flashes, and that people see in us your redeeming love and the triumph of light over darkness! In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen. | |
| Communion | | |
| Communion Music | <i>I Know that My Redeemer Liveth (Messiah)</i> Sujung Wang, soprano; Sinae Lee, piano | G. F. Handel |
| *Hymn | <i>Lift High the Cross</i> | No. 826, vv. 1,3,4 |
| *Benediction | | |
| Postlude | <i>Apotheosis (Faust)</i> Chancel Choir | C. Gounod |



Welcome visitors! We're glad you're here today. If you'd like to learn more about what's happening at Concord, how you can get involved, or how we can help or support you, fill out one of the Connection Cards in the pew with your contact information. You can place the card in the offering or give it to a greeter as you leave.

Assisting in the service of worship are:

Pastor: Rev. Julia Burkley (she/her)

Director of Music: Matthew Pressley (he/him)

Director of Children's and Youth Ministries: Christina Pressley (she/her)

Accompanist: Sinae Lee (she/her)

Liturgist: Sharon Brucker (she/her)

Greeters: Chris Hauserman, Steven Studer, Abigail Quandt, Barbara Wise

Deacon-in-Charge: Ryan Moffett (he/him)

Livestream Team: Bob Brown, Rob Brown, Ellen Greenhorn, Ron McKinney

We thank those of you who contributed to the Easter Flower Fund and enabled the Flower Guild to decorate our Sanctuary with lilies and flowers, representing the glories of Easter and the rebirth of spring.

Gwen and Ralph Fuller for the blessings of Concord Church!

Chris Hauserman in memory of Diane McClure Ercole.

Judy Hayes in memory of Jan Feltz, Ron Tieste, Gerry Crock.

Susan and George Hofmann in memory of our parents.

Barbara Wise in memory of her parents, Charles and Erma Cathcart, and son, James Wise.

Pastor Julia will be out of the office Easter Monday 4/5 and returning Friday 4/10. She will be checking emails periodically, but please call the church office if an emergency arises.

The **Church Office** is closed Easter Monday.

Mary's Circle will meet tomorrow (4/6) at 1pm at Nancy Tucker's home.

Mug & Muffin – Led by Pastor Julia Burkley. Mug & Muffin will not meet 4/8. We'll be back 4/15!

Anyone wishing to **request prayers** to be announced during the service should contact the church office at 302-654-9652 or at info@concordpc.org.

Donating flowers for worship is a lovely way to remember or honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. **Contact the Church Office about available dates.**

April is **Friendship House Coffee Drive** month! We will be collecting ground regular coffee to replenish their supplies during the month of April. Please contribute what you can to this very specific need. Monetary donations will also be accepted, with *FH Coffee* in the memo. Thank you for your ongoing support of Friendship House.

Please sign up for our **Habitat Build Workday** - Saturday, May 2 from 8am to 3pm. **THERE ARE STILL 5 SPOTS LEFT!**

Please make sure to 'like' our church on **Facebook!** We share photos, events, and moments of thought and consideration! <https://www.facebook.com/concordpc/>