

# **The Fifth Sunday of Eastertide**

## **New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ**



1070 Church Road † East Greenville PA 18041

[www.newgoshucc.org](http://www.newgoshucc.org) † 215-679-2041

***“Sharing the light, faith and love of Jesus with all people.”***

**May 18, 2025**

**8:00 a.m. In Person and Livestream Worship in Sanctuary**

**10:30 a.m. In Person in Sanctuary**

***We Praise and Confess***  
***The \* invites you to rise in body or spirit.***

Prelude

***Lift High the Cross*** – arr. Janet Linker

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

\*Entrance Hymn: No. 826

***Lift High the Cross*** - Crucifer

\*Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,

**You have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.**

*Silence*

Declaration of Pardon

1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

Praise

O Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

\*Song of Praise

*Benedictus es, Domine* – John Rutter

Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa-thers; you are  
wor-thy of praise; glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you for the ra-di-ance  
of your ho-ly Name; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.  
Glo-ry to you in the splen-dor of your tem-ple; on the throne of your  
ma-jes-ty, glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you, seat-ed be-tween the  
Cher-u-bim; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.  
Glo-ry to you, be-hold-ing the depths; in the high vault of  
hea-ven, glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you, Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly  
Spir-it; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.

\*Collect

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . .

## ***We Hear and Respond***

From the Book of Last Things

Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment."<sup>1</sup>

The Word of the Lord, the Light of the World.

**Thanks be to God!**

The Psalter Sung: No. 17 – Psalm 148

***Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!*** – Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

\*Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

St. John 13:31-35

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

**Glory to Christ our Savior.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him,

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<sup>1</sup> *Revised Common Lectionary* (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2009).

God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." <sup>2</sup>

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

Ministry of Music [10:30 a.m.]      ***This is the Day*** - All Star Kids Club  
The Children of New Goshenhoppen

The Word of God Proclaimed      Dr. Williams – "PD"  
***Cross and Christian***

\*An Easter Proclamation of Faith

LEADER:	The manifold wisdom of God has been revealed.
PEOPLE:	<b>Rulers and authorities in heavenly realms now know of his marvelous plan.</b>
LEADER:	For the Son of God, Jesus Christ died on a cross for our sin.
PEOPLE:	<b>His body was pierced; His blood was shed as the perfect sacrifice lamb.</b>
LEADER:	After he died the death of man, his lifeless body was placed in a tomb.
PEOPLE:	<b>He was wrapped in linens and spices and a large stone sealed him in darkness.</b>
LEADER:	But God broke the darkness with the light of life; on the third day Jesus rose from the dead.
PEOPLE:	<b>Resurrection power surged through every part of his being.</b>

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<sup>2</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 13:31–35.

LEADER: He became the Risen Christ—conqueror of sin and death.

PEOPLE: **The firstborn from the dead, that we, too, might taste the power of light and life.**

LEADER: He who rose now sits at the right hand of the Father.

PEOPLE: **The Risen One is the Ascended Christ—the high priest of heaven and head of the church, his body.**

LEADER: We declare today that we, as his church, are his blood-bought bride.

PEOPLE: **That we are his people, a royal priesthood, a new and holy nation in his sight.**

LEADER: He will come again for us ... Maranatha!

**PEOPLE: That we might be where he is ... Maranatha, Lord Jesus!**

LEADER: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: **Who was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**<sup>3</sup>

## Morning Prayer

Our Savior's Prayer [using **debts** and **debtors**]

## Welcome and Announcements

## Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Give via PayPal, a Credit Card, or Debit Card by scanning the QR code with your camera



## Offertory

\*Offertory Response: No. 606

\*Offertory Prayer

***The Doxology***

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<sup>3</sup> Robert Webber, *The Services of the Christian Year*, vol. 5, The Complete Library of Christian Worship (Nashville, TN: Star Song Pub. Group, 1994), 404.

# Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning

The musical score is written for a single melodic line and piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The piano accompaniment is written on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are printed below the melody. The score consists of four systems of music. The first system includes five numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the hymn with the final line of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands, providing harmonic support for the melody.

1 Christ tri - um - phant, ev - er reign - ing, Sav - ior, Mas - ter, King!  
2 Word in - car - nate, truth re - veal - ing, Son of Man on earth!  
3 Suffer - ing ser - vant, scorned, ill - treat - ed, vic - tim cru - ci - fied!  
4 Priest - ly king, en - throned for ev - er high in heaven a - bove!  
5 So, our hearts and voic - es rais - ing through the a - ges long,

Lord of heaven, our lives sus - tain - ing, hear us as we sing:  
power and maj - es - ty con - ceal - ing by your hum - ble birth:  
death is through the cross de - feat - ed, sin - ners jus - ti - fied:  
sin and death and hell shall nev - er sti - fle hymns of love:  
cease - less - ly up - on you gaz - ing, this shall be our song:

Yours the glo - ry and the crown, the high re - nown, the e - ter - nal name.

WORDS: Michael Saward (1932- )  
MUSIC: John Barnard (1948- )

GUITING POWER  
8.5.8.5.7.9.

***We go. . .  
To share the light, faith and love of Jesus  
with all people!***

\*Sung Dismissal and Blessing

***Now Unto Him Who Is Able***

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling.

To make you stand in His presence blameless and with great joy.

To the only God our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Be the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.

Both now and forevermore, Amen.

**Give Him the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.**

**Both now and forevermore, Amen!**

\*Postlude

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***A Thought to Ponder from Pastor. . .***

There is a vivid picture of Christ's sacrifice for sin in Mark Twain's novel, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*. The story tells the adventures of an ordinary man (the Connecticut Yankee) from the 19th century, who is transported back to the medieval world of King Arthur. At one point he convinces King Arthur to dress like a peasant and take a journey through his kingdom. The results are generally laughable as the king, completely oblivious to life in the trenches, tries to carry on with all the pomp of the court while those around him simply think he is crazy. But there is a touching chapter



titled "The Smallpox Hut" describing how the king and his companion happen upon a beggar's hovel. The husband lies dead, and the wife tries to warn them away:

"For the fear of God, who visits with misery and death such as be harmless, tarry not here, but fly! This place is under his curse."

The king replies, "Let me come in and help you, you are sick and in trouble."

The woman asks the king to go into the loft and check on their child.

"It was a desperate place for him to be in, and might cost him his life," observes the Yankee, "but it was no use to argue with him." The king disappears up a ladder looking for the girl.

There was a slight noise from the direction of the dim corner where the ladder was. It was the king descending. I could see that he was bearing something in one arm and assisting himself with the other. He came forward into the light; upon his breast lay a slender girl of 15. She was but half conscious; she was dying of smallpox. Here was heroism at its last and loftiest possibility, its utmost summit; this was challenging death in the open field unarmed, with all the odds against the challenger, no reward set upon the contest, and no admiring world in silks and cloth-of-gold to gaze and applaud; and yet the king's bearing was as serenely brave as it had always been in those cheaper contests where knight meets knight in equal fight and clothed in protecting steel. He was great now; sublimely great. The rude statues of his ancestors in his palace should have an addition would see to that; and it would not be a mailed king killing a giant or a dragon, like the rest. It would be a king in commoner's garb bearing death in his arms.

*There is Jesus on the cross! A king in commoner's garb bearing sinners in his arms.*

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## MAY 18, 2025

The People of New Goshenhoppen, Ministers  
Rev. Dr. David A. Williams, Senior Pastor and Organist  
Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens, Pastor Emerita  
Rev. Erick Kern, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Elaine Ely, Minister of Grief Support  
Kelly Johannsen, Lay Minister of Visitation  
Beverly A. Benner, Director of Christian Education  
Susan Hemperly, Senior Choir Accompanist  
Cindy Biehn, Administrative Secretary  
Office Phone: 215-679-2041 Email: [office@newgoshucc.org](mailto:office@newgoshucc.org)  
Visit us online at [www.newgoshucc.org](http://www.newgoshucc.org)

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**WELCOME VISITORS** ~ we're glad you are joining us for worship!

**WiFi PASSWORD:** Network: NewGoshGuest, password: **wearethechurch**

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Please read John 5:1-9.

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: TODAY** there will be a Special Congregational Meeting between the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. It will begin at 9:15 a.m. The purpose is to review and approve changes to Meadows Funds applications and the total amount awarded for each category. Please plan on attending.

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION AND HILLEGASS FUND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:** On Sunday, June 8 at the 10:30 a.m. service, we will recognize those students who are graduating from high school, college, and graduate school. A gift from Christian Education will be presented to them. The Hillegass Scholarship Committee will also present their awards for the academic year 2025-2026. Families of graduates, please call the Church Office by Monday, June 2 to provide information of the graduate and their future plans so that it may be included in the Sunday bulletin.

**CEMETERY WORKDAYS:** The following are the dates for cemetery workdays: May 24, June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, and Sept. 27. We begin the morning with a cup of coffee and a planning meeting at 7:30 a.m. with work commencing at 8:00 a.m. We appreciate any time your schedule will allow. *More helpers make tasks easier.*

### **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

*The church is grateful for financial gifts received in the name of loved ones and friends.*

### **CEMETERY FUND**

**In memory of our parents, David H. Croll & Margaret Croll**

by Harriet (Croll) Fitzsimons and Carol (Croll) Gressley

**In memory of Virginia & Wayne Smith**

by Jerry & Carol (Croll) Gressley

**RED HILL BAND'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** – Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 p.m., Upper Perkiomen High School Auditorium, 2 Walt Road, Pennsburg. Free Admission. George Pinchock, Director.

**ORGAN RECITAL:** Celebrate Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church's new organ on Sunday, May 18, at 4:00 p.m. with a special dedicatory organ recital. The Allen Organ artist, Rudy Lucente, will dazzle and entertain us with his dramatic playing and musical talents. Coffee and cake will be served following the concert. All are invited! (Address: 5901 Kings Highway South, Zionsville, Pennsylvania)

**ATTENTION ALL COOKS:** The Anniversary Cookbook Committee is collecting recipes for our publication. We are looking for your favorites. Please dig deep and send us recipes for the ages. Include those from your grandparents, friends, and family members with a focus on, but not exclusively, old German and PA Dutch foods. Recipes can be dropped off in the appropriately marked box in the Social Room, handed to a committee member, or emailed to [krause1123@comcast.net](mailto:krause1123@comcast.net). Please include your name and contact information. We are looking forward to some tasty treats.

**SYMPATHY** is expressed to the family of **Patricia Nichols** who passed to eternal life on May 15, 2025. Please keep her children, Benjamin Craig, Christopher Duncan Craig, and Pamela Alberici (nee Craig), and her extended family in your prayers. All are invited to attend a brief interment ceremony on Wednesday, May 21st at 10:00 a.m. A memorial service is tentatively planned for early September.

**BULLETINS** are presented in honor and love of all my wonderful grandchildren, April, Jenna, Amanda, Alex, Hannah and Nathan by Nana Ackerman.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented in memory of father, R. C. Macek by Barbara & Neil Kemp and family; and in memory of departed loved ones by Mr. Raymond Eppler.

**THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT** are presented in memory of Chris A. Miller by daughters, Kim Fiscus and Shannon Miller.

**THE FLOWERS BEHIND THE PULPIT** are from the children of Patricia Nichols, who passed peacefully from this world on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, and are in loving memory of her and in sincere gratitude to her church family for their love and support in her spiritual life and throughout her struggles with dementia.

**ATTENDANCE: 5/11/25** – 8:00 a.m. 53; 10:30 a.m. 55; Livestream (You Tube) 50. Sunday School 32.

Above is the “Live” Concurrent Household Number - *(Note: “number of households” is less than “number of people”. If on average each household has two people watching, then our numbers are 2x the number of households that tuned in.)*

**OPERATING INCOME 5/11/25:** Current & Benevolences \$4,124; Building, Improvement & Maintenance \$252. Monthly EFT income \$5,060.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE:** 73 units have responded. There is \$84,130 pledged. The amount received since 2023 is \$87,431 (including Capital Campaign memorial gifts.)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS:**

Year to Date Income	\$293,145.07
Less Investment Withdrawals	<u>\$44,424.00</u>
	\$248,721.07
Year to Date Expenses	\$251,219.65
Special Income	\$14,728.68
Capital Campaign Income	\$15,969.75
Special Project BIM Expenses	\$12,345.60
Meadows Paid Back Year to Date	\$12,500.00

### **ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
	9:15 a.m.	Special Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education building)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	11:30 a.m.	Youth Group mini golf/chip'n putt
Mon.	6:30 p.m.	Consistory (Bible Fellowship Room)
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Quilting (Pathfinder Room)
	6:00 p.m.	Land Use Committee (Bible Fellowship Room)
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scouts (lower-level classrooms)
Wed.	9:00 a.m.	Nursery School celebration (Park)
	10:00 a.m.	Interment of Patricia Nichols (Cemetery)
Thurs.	9:00 a.m.	Nursery School celebration (Chr. Ed. Bldg.)
	6:00 p.m.	Historical Committee (Rec. Room)
	6:30 p.m.	300 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee (Bible Fellowship Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Red Hill Band rehearsal (Park)
Sat.	7:30 a.m.	Cemetery Work Day
Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	10:00 a.m.	Cemetery Service (Oldest cemetery)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education building)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
	1:00 p.m.	Private Event (Park)
Mon.		Office Closed – Memorial Day

#### **Thank you to our Service Participants**

8:00 a.m.	Narthex – Lois Anastas Roberts' Church Office – Emily Moyer Elevator – Amy Hangey Upper Narthex – Randy Peterson Liturgist/Acolyte – Bruce Adam
10:30 a.m.	Narthex – Terry Dworkin Roberts' Church Office – Sandy George Elevator – Steve Lentz Upper Narthex – Thomas Bancroft Liturgist/Acolyte – Soren Mugridge



# THE FATHER'S DAY CARNATION PROJECT!

REMEMBERING FATHER, GRANDFATHER, UNCLE ON  
FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>

We are pleased to have this opportunity both to honor men and financially support Old First Reformed UCC, Homeless Men's Shelter in Philadelphia, PA.

This year, instead of delivering carnations to a health care facility, we wish for all men of New Goshenhoppen to be remembered. At the conclusion of both services, every man is invited to come to the chancel railing and receive a carnation.

***Use a separate form for each carnation ordered.***

My gift is: (*check one*) \_\_\_\_ In Honor of: or \_\_\_\_ In Memory of:

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Name (first, last)

(Please indicate Father, Grandfather, etc.)

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed form, along with **\$5.00**,  
to New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road,  
East Greenville, PA 18041.

**Checks should be made payable to  
New Goshenhoppen Church.**

**Deadline: Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.**

## Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain  
Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.  
your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985

Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER  
10.10 with refrain

# Sing Praise to God, You Heavens! 17

(Psalm 148)

1 Sing praise to God, you heav-ens! Sing praise, each shin-ing light!  
 2 Sing praise, O earth, sing prais-es! Sing prais-es, hill and plain,  
 3 Sing prais-es, all you crea-tures in whom God takes de-light:  
 4 Sing prais-es now, God's peo-ple; your gift of speech em-ploy

Sing, plan-ets in your or-bits; sing, stars all burn-ing bright!  
 you moun-tains thrust-ing sky-ward, you val-leys ripe with grain!  
 you whales that roam the o-ceans, you ea-gles in your flight!  
 to praise the Lord, your Mak-er, with thank-ful-ness and joy!

Sing praise, you winds and tem-pests, you driv-ing rain and snow!  
 Sing praise, each fra-grant flow-er; your fair-est hues dis-play.  
 Sing praise, you sheep on hill-sides, you cat-tle in the stall!  
 Sing with the whole cre-a-tion; a cos-mic cho-rus raise:

Sing, clouds that race and bil-low and shad-ow earth be-low!  
 Sing praise, you trees of au-tumn in glow-ing, glad ar-ray!  
 Though word-less, sing your prais-es to God who made you all!  
 "To God a-lone be glo-ry and ev-er-last-ing praise!"

This paraphrase of Psalm 148 reflects the spirit of praise linking Psalms 146–150. Of the two great themes found in these final five psalms—creation and deliverance—this psalm focuses on the former. The opening praise “from the heavens” is matched by praise “from the earth.”