

The Fourth Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer and Sermon April 21, 2024

New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ

1070 Church Road † East Greenville PA 18041 www.newgoshucc.org † 215-679-2041 "Sharing the light, faith and love of Jesus with all people."

8:00 a.m. In person in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. In person in the Sanctuary and Livestream

Praise

The * invites you to rise in body or spirit.

Music of Gathering

Bach Allemande in G Major BWV 816

Chiming of the Trinity

*Hymn of Praise: No. 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

One License #A727537

*Apostolic Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*Song of Praise: No. 627

I Love You, Lord
One License #A727537

*Prayer of the Day
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . .

We Hear and Respond

From a Letter of St. John

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us. ¹

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody Psalm 23

He leads me beside still waters.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. ²

*Gospel Acclamation: No. 353 My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

³ He restores my soul.

¹ Revised Common Lectionary (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2009).

² Revised Common Lectionary (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2009).

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

Glory to Christ our Savior.

¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." ³

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Ministry of Music [10:30 a.m.] **God Is My Shepherd**-Gordon Young
Senior Choir
Accompanist: Susan Hemperly

Homily

Rev'd Erick J. Kern, Jr.

Abiding in Jesus

*The Apostles' Creed

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old & New Testaments.

³ Revised Common Lectionary (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2009).

Do you believe in God?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

Call to Confession

Corporate Confession

Gentle Shepherd,

You guide us in right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others that seem to have it all. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep, and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your

voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.

A Word of Pardon

The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The Good Shepherd knows the sheep, and the Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep so that the sheep may live. We are part of the flock; we are part of Christ's body. In Christ we find wholeness and restoration. Go forth and share this Good News. Amen.

Morning Prayer
Our Savior's Prayer [Sung – Front Cover of the Hymnal]

The Saints in Action

Offertory

Grieg Nocturne (piano)

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings Give via PayPal, a Credit Card, or Debit Card by scanning the QR code with your camera



*Festival Doxology

Lasst Uns Erfruen

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! Amen!

*Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Dismissal: No. 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is - St. Columbia

Following the Light of Christ into the World

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

*Dismissal and Blessing

*Going Forth

Scarlatti Sonata in A Major Kp.453

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APRIL 21, 2024

The People of New Goshenhoppen, Ministers
Rev. Dr. David A. Williams, Senior Pastor
Rev. Erick Kern, Associate Pastor
Rev. Elaine Ely, Minister of Grief Support
Kimberly Cornwell and Kelly Johannsen, Lay Ministers of Visitation
Beverly A. Benner, Director of Christian Education
Dan Tuck, Director of Music
Cynthia Hector, Children's Music Director
Susan Hemperly, Senior Choir Accompanist
Cindy Biehn, Administrative Secretary
Office Phone: 215-679-2041 Email: office@newgoshucc.org
Visit us online at www.newgoshucc.org

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

THANK YOU to **leva Carucci**, who is serving as Substitute Organist this morning.

WiFi PASSWORD: Network: NewGoshGuest, password: wearethechurch

NEXT SUNDAY please read John 15:1-8.

UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS are located on a table in the vestibule at the Fellowship Hall side entrance and in the narthex of the church building. There is no charge for the booklets.

FULL MOON CAMPFIRES ARE BACK! The first campfire for this season is on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>April 23rd</u>. We will gather at the Prayer Wall around 7:30 p.m. Sunset is close to 7:45 p.m. and the full moon is technically at 7:48 p.m. Hoping for a clear sky that evening. Rain cancels, of course. Since we are at the first campfire, there will be hot dogs to roast if you are interested. Feel free to bring a snack for sharing. Bring a lawn chair and your own beverage.

GRIEF SUPPORT: The Grief Support meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 18 has been <u>rescheduled for Thursday, April 25 at 1:00 p.m.</u> in the Roberts' Room. We will resume meeting on the third Thursday of the month in May.

ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT, Sunday, April 28, 2024, 3:00 p.m. featuring *Maestro Hector Olivera***.** Our new Allen Hybrid Pipe-Digital Organ was designed by Maestro Olivera and our console bears a signature plate with his name. This concert is a gift from Allen Organ to our congregation and community. Please invite your friends and family to join us for this spectacular afternoon of music.

DONATIONS of food are needed for the reception following the Organ Concert on Sunday, April 28th. If you wish to donate, please sign up by clicking on the link that is on the homepage of the New Goshenhoppen website, www.newgoshucc.org. If you aren't able to sign up electronically but would like to donate, please contact Delores Schuler. Thank you!

OUTDOOR MINISTRIES COMMITTEE SPRING/MOTHER'S DAY FUNDRAISER: OMC is taking orders for Wendy's Flowers Gift Cards. Each gift card costs \$25.00 and is redeemable at Wendy's Flowers locations in Gilbertsville and Barto. Gift cards may be used to purchase any item(s) in Wendy's shops. Outdoor Ministries receives \$5.00 for each gift card purchased. Orders may be placed on the forms available on the table in the Social Room or the table outside Fellowship Hall. Or contact Delores Schuler, Debra Brauner, Lois Anastas, Gail Gerhard, or Donna Fried to place an order. **The deadline to order a gift card is April 28th. Gift cards may be paid for and picked up on Sunday, May 5th after worship services.** Questions? Ask any of the people listed above. Why not buy two gift cards? Buy one for a special person and one for yourself!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP monthly outreach is donations of new baby clothes, diapers, and related baby items for the Liberty Ministries Baby Bag Program for Women. There is a container in the Social Room to accept these donations.

LADIES TEA PARTY: Please join us **Saturday, May 4th** at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for "Ladies Tea." Bring your favorite teacup, if you wish. Join in the fun and fellowship as we enjoy various teas, tea sandwiches, soup, and sweets. Tickets are required. Price is \$11.00 per person age 12 and older, (under 12 are free). Deadline for purchasing tickets is Sunday, April 28th.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

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

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Clair Fox

by Michele Kline by Joyce Batzel

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Clair Fox

by Terry Dworkin

SUMMER CAMP program brochures are available on-line and also can be found at the Fellowship Hall entrance and other church access areas. Early bird registration ends April 30th. Email any questions or concerns to camp@newgoshucc.org.

SYMPATHY is expressed to the family of **Edith M. Roeder** who passed to eternal life on April 16, 2024. Please keep her family in your prayers.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS may pick up their arrangements in the vestibule outside the <u>Fellowship Hall Entrance</u> following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Flowers will remain there until Wednesday, after which time they will be discarded.

BULLETINS are presented in memory of loved ones by Ray Eppler.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in memory of our son and brother, Christopher M. Cressman by Mommy, Daddy, Matthew, Nicholas, Ryan and Jillian; and in memory of my mom, Nancy Swenk by the Jana Ellixson family.

THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT are presented in memory of mother, Mary A. Kline by Nancy & Mark Mullen.

THE FLOWERS BEHIND THE PULPIT are presented in memory of the birthday anniversary of husband, Bruce Butterweck, by Karen and family.

OPERATING INCOME 4/14/24: Current & Benevolences \$2,235; Building, Improvement & Maintenance \$157. Monthly EFT income \$5,060.

ATTENDANCE: 4/14/24 - 8:00 a.m. 44; 10:30 a.m. 85; Livestream (You Tube) 43. Sunday School 81.

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.)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE: 61 giving units have responded. There is \$61,130 pledged. The amount received since 2023 is \$37,826 (including Capital Campaign memorial gifts.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS:

Year to Date Income	\$189,739.82
Less Investment Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$189,739.82
Year to Date Expenses	\$190,670.26
Special Projects BIM Income	\$31,256.00
Special Project BIM Expenses	\$97,521.18
Meadows Payback Income Year to	
Date	\$445.00

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (S)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education Building)
	9:15 a.m.	Confirmation Class (CF)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service & Livestream (S)
	11:30 a.m.	Youth Group - Faithbuilder meeting
Mon.	6:30 p.m.	Consistory (Bible Fellowship Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Red Hill Band Board meeting (Roberts' Room)
Tues.		Nursery School In-service Day
	8:00 a.m.	Quilting (Pathfinder Room)
	9:30 a.m.	Life Long Learning (Various rooms)
	6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	7:30 p.m.	Full moon campfire (Prayer meditation wall)
Thurs.	1:00 p.m.	Grief Support (Roberts' Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Cardio Drumming (FH)
	7:00 p.m.	Historical Committee (Rec. Room)
Sat.	7:30 a.m.	Cemetery Work Day
Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (S)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education Building)
	9:15 a.m.	Confirmation Class (CF)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service & Livestream (S)
	3:00 p.m.	Organ Concert (Sanctuary) followed by refreshments (Fellowship Hall)

THANK YOU TO OUR SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

8:00 a.m. Narthex: Melissa Jamison

Roberts' Room: Chris Weikel Elevator: Nancy Haines Upper Narthex: Will Howe Liturgist/Acolyte: Emy Moyer

10:30 a.m. Narthex: Steve Lentz

Roberts' Room: Thomas Bancroft

Elevator: Peter Hemperly **Upper Narthex**: Sandy George **Liturgist/Acolyte:** Terry Dworkin

MOTHER'S DAY CARNATION PROJECT

REMEMBER MOTHER OR GRANDMOTHER ON MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 12.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to honor my loved one and also to encourage the good work of A Woman's Place in Doylestown, PA and Liberty Ministries in Bucks and Montgomery Counties.

Kindly use a separate form for each carnation ordered.

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

In Honor of	_
In Memory of	
•	-
Presented by	
Relationship to you:	_
(Indicate Mother, Grandmother, Aunt, Sister, etc.)	

Cost \$5.00 each.

Checks should be made payable to New Goshenhoppen Church. Kindly mark the envelope "Carnation Project." Please mail-in to the Church Office, place in the offering plate, or put in the black lock box located outside the Main Entrance door (at the elevator entrance).

Deadline for orders is Monday, May 6.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness 1 *Great thy faith - ful-ness, O God Fa - ther; is my and win ter, and spring-time har - vest, 2 Sum - mer and Par - don for sin and peace that en dur - eth, there shad ow of turn - ing thee. is no with in their cours - es sun, moon, and stars bove guide, thine own dear cheer and pres ence to to Thou thy fail not. chang - est not; com - pas - sions they with na ture in man - i - fold wit-ness strength for to day and bright hope for to mor-row: As thou been thou for wilt be. hast ev faith to thy great - ful - ness, mer and love. bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923 Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 with refrain





This simple song of adoration provides a significant blend of individual and communal considerations, for although the text is written in the voice of one person, the music involves multiple voices singing in harmony. The resulting experience seems more shared than solitary.

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My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353



This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27/Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

TEXT: Edward Mote, c. 1834, alt. MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, alt. SOLID ROCK LM with refrain

802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when *The English Hymnal*, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son....

JOHN 3:16, NIV