

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude "He Hideth My Soul" (Hayes) David Thompson

Call to Worship Becky Wheeler

Easter is not an event that has occurred
it's a journey that has begun,
not a place that we have visited
but a path on which we stand.
Come and hear the good news of our Savior Jesus Christ.
We thought he was dead, but he is risen from the dead and lives evermore.
How glorious it is to hear of Jesus' resurrection.
At his death, our hearts cried out and we felt lost.
But he comes to us and walks with us, even now.
In the word, in the music, in the prayers, Christ is present with us.
Open your hearts to the Lord.
Lord, prepare us to receive you into our lives.

***Hymn of Praise #246** "Christ Is Alive!"

***Call to Confession** Becky Wheeler

***Prayer of Confession**
Loving God, you are so patient with us.
You brought us through Easter
when we rejoiced at the news
of the resurrection of Jesus our Savior.
You were with us in the upper room
when we remained hidden out of fear.
Now you come to us on the road.
You come to us in our everyday lives,
moving out of this set-aside time for worship
into the work world.
But we aren't always ready for you
and don't always see you or feel your presence.
We let so many things crowd in on our lives
and blot out our awareness of your presence.
Forgive our blindness and our stubbornness.
Help us keep our hearts open to you,
that we may see and tell what you have done
in our lives and in our world.
We pray in Jesus' name. AMEN.

***Assurance of Pardon**
The promises of God are always true. God is with us, in our journeys, in our lives, and in the resurrection of Jesus, who saved us from sin. Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri #581**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon on the Steps Carrie Wyatt

Anthem "How Deep The Father's Love for Us" (Townend) Chancel Choir
How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns his face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.
How high, how wide, how deep the Father's love for us.
Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.
How pure, how strong, how deep the Father's love for us.
I will not boast in anything; no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart:
his wounds have paid my ransom.
How high, how wide. How pure, how strong. How deep the Father's love for us.

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (Pew Bible NT p.119)

Second Reading Luke 24:13-35 (Pew Bible NT p.90)

The Word of God, for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit "Sacramental Living" Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (A Declaration of Faith, 6.5)
In God's history with humanity in the world,
God has often made material things
channels through which grace is understood
and powerfully experienced.
Out of the life and ministry of Jesus,
the church received baptism and the Lord's supper
as special sacraments of God's saving action.
We believe that in the washing with water
and in the eating of bread and drinking of wine
the Holy Spirit demonstrates and confirms the promises
of the embodied, written, and preached Word
with vividness and power.
In these concrete human actions
believers declare their acceptance of the promises
As the Word is acted out in the sacraments
so the sacraments are to be accompanied by the Word.

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord's Prayer (#464 in hymnal)

Service of Giving

Offertory "Nearer, My God, To Thee" (arr. Henry) Jim Simmons

***Doxology #606**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #252** "Day of Arising"

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

***Postlude** "Festal March" (Handel) Rita Harmon

**Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

The arrangement in worship today is given for the glory of God.

Please remember in prayer:
Buck Jolley; friend having surgery; Tanner Jones; Justina Eddy; Nancy Smith; Hugh Fincher; Tommy Bedenbaugh & family; our neighbors experiencing homelessness; a friend facing heart surgery; Lea Wilson; Missy Wirthman; Joy Clemmer; Dave Newkirk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week's lectionary readings are:
Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.

Sunday School Offering
2nd quarter Sunday School offering will go to the Imagination Library.

Graduates
If anyone in your family is graduating this year, please let the church office know as soon as possible.

An Odd Couple: Jonah and Ruth: A new class
We began a new adult study on Sunday, March 19th at 9:45. The class will use the Kerygma resource written by Carol J. Miller, a Methodist elder. We will explore "long ago and far away" stories of an unusual prophet named Jonah and of a faithful daughter-in-law named Ruth. What do Jonah and Ruth have in common? Why are they linked together in this study and called "an odd couple"? All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings in the parlor at 9:45.

New Church Directory

We have re-sent the link to the online Church Directory Form, and there are hard copies available in the FLC. Please fill them out and return as soon as possible. Don't forget your appointment time to have your photo made for the directory.

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

April 24, 1915: More than 250 prominent Armenians—civic leaders, teachers, writers, and clergy—are rounded up and imprisoned. Many will be tortured and killed, the beginning of the Turkish effort to eliminate all Armenian Christians. The day will be remembered as Armenian Genocide Day.

April 25, 62: Death of Mark the Gospel writer while imprisoned in Alexandria in the eighth year of Nero, according to Vetus martyrologium romanum (an old Roman collation of martyr accounts).

April 26, 1877: Residents of Minnesota observe a statewide day of prayer, set by Governor John Sargent Pillsbury, imploring deliverance from a plague of grasshoppers that has been ravaging their crops. Many families are on the verge of starvation. In the next two days, warm weather will cause millions of larvae to wiggle to life and skeptics scoff; but a plunge in temperature on the fourth day will freeze and kill them. A chapel will be built at Cold Spring to commemorate the miracle.

Praying for Our Congregation

We are praying for every member of our church family. Each week we invite you to pray for particular members. This week we are praying for:

Hazel Hubbard

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sunday, April 23

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor
9:45 AM Children's Sunday School
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

Monday, April 24

5:30 PM Girl Scouts
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room

Wednesday, April 26

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

Sunday, April 30

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor
9:45 AM Children's Sunday School
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

Upcoming

May 4 – Circle 4
May 9 – Circle 1
May 12 – Steak Dinner

NEXT STEPS

- Plan to be at Sunday School for the study of Jonah and Ruth
- Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- Complete and return your Church Directory Form
- Contribute to our hymnbook loan program (see 3/26 LimeLight for more information)
- Make reservation for Wednesday Night Supper
- Make reservations for the May 12 dinner (see last week's LimeLight)

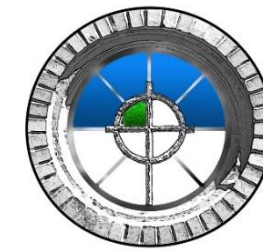
STAFF

Tonya Benton, Administrative Assistant, limepresbyterian@bellsouth.net
Rita Harmon, Organist, mteach1@aol.com
James Hart, Custodian, James.Hart199521@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller, Pastor, limestone.presby.pastor@gmail.com
Vicki Miller, Nursery Attendant, vsrmiller@yahoo.com
Sharon Thompson, Music Director, Mozart1121@aol.com
Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

QR code for electronic contributions:



CONNECT WITH US: limestone-presbyterian.com/ 864-489-6079
 /limestonepresbyterian  @limestone_pres_gaffney
109 SOUTH LIMESTONE STREET • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA



LIMESTONE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD,
GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE,
TOGETHER



Janet Brooks-Gerloff. **The Road to Emmaus.**

Companion. c. 1300, "one who accompanies or associates with another," from Old French *compagnon* "fellow, mate, friend, partner" (12c.), from Late Latin *companionem*, literally "bread fellow, messmate," from Latin *com* "with, together" + *panis* "bread."