

Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132# (conference call only)

Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live

May 1, 2022, 11:15 am



Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candle

Centering Music

Call to Worship

L: O Lord our God, we praise you.

P: We cried to you for help and you answered us.

L: You have restored our lives;

P: You have rescued us from the grave.

Let us pray: Living God, you meet us in unexpected ways and in unexpected places and surprise us with the abundance of your love. Feed us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit at your table so that we may follow you today, and always. Accept this day our worship of you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together: ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

Hymn *As the Deer (2025) 2x*

Call to Confession

When your soul is suffering in silence, find comfort by calling out to the Lord our God, who heals our brokenness, who lifts us from the pit, and restores our lives. Let us confession our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. Amen.

(moment of silence.)

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Rise up from the dust! Cast off the shroud of sorrow and put on the joy of the Lord

P: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks (refrain only)

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. (repeat)

The Peace

L: The joy of Easter remains in our hearts! Let us share that joy and peace with others. The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Anthem *I Will Arise and Go To Jesus* arranged by Donald Moore

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

O God of light, by the power of your Holy Spirit, restore our sight, strengthen our walk, and fill our hearts, that in these words of Scripture and sermon we may see Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading Psalm 30 ¹I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. ²O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. ³O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. ⁴Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. ⁵For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. ⁶As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." ⁷By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. ⁸To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication: ⁹"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? ¹⁰Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!" ¹¹You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, ¹²so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Hymn *Open My Eyes That I May See* (324)

Scripture Reading Acts 9:1-20 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

Sermon

Faith Journeys

Rev. Chris White

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Offering Prayer

L: In the spirit of the first believers, we are called to share our goods in common and contribute to the needs of the poor with glad and generous hearts. Let us pray:

P: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the many blessings you have given to us, and for the opportunity to share what we have with others who are in need. Help us to use our gifts of money, time and talents to shape the world in your image. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you. **P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Chorus (all): *Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts (2x)*

The whole world is full of God's glory (3x)

Holy is the Lord!

You are holy, O God of majesty...that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Communion of the People

Chorus (all): *Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and you will not hunger*

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray: To God, whose power is at work within us, we continue to lift our voices in praise. To the Holy Three in One, who is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, be glory in the church now and forever. Amen.

Taking the Word into the World

+Song: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (514)*

+Charge

Because the world is poor and starving, go with bread.

Because the world is filled with fear, go with courage.

Because the world is in despair, go with hope.

Because the world is starved for something real, go with truth.

Because the world is not always fair, go with justice.
 Because the world is weary of wars, go in peace.
 And because the world will die without it, go with Christ's love.

+Benediction

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

+Stand as you are able

Liturgy resource: Feasting on the Word Worship Companion and PCUSA Book of Common Worship

HYMNS

As the Deer (2x)

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
 You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.
 You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
 You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.

Open My Eyes That I May See

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
 Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
 Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
 Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
 Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
 Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;
 Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Let us Talents and Tongues Employ

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy;
 Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at he table he sets the tone,
 Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around, loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
 Gives us love to tell, bread to share, God (Immanuel) everywhere!
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around, loaves abound!

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 1, 2022

Pastor:
Rev. Sharon Carter
865-385-5003

Choir Director:
Yeon-Kyung Kim

Admin Assistant:
Stephanie Class

P.O. Box 121038
Covington, KY 41012
Office: 859-331-3238
communityoffaith@fuse.net
www.cofnky.org

Scriptures for Sunday, May 8

Acts 9:36–43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9–17
John 10:22–30

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Betty Murphy
Ruth Roeber
The McDermott family
Johanna Willis
Nita Kleier
Jean Jennings' family
Emille Walden
Kelly Montana
Lynda Jaeger
Kittie Dupps
Skip Dixon & Family
Ron Carlin
Ella Grace Marksberry

Upcoming Worship Services:

Join us for in person services at our new location at 710 Western Reserve Rd., Crescent Springs, KY. You can also worship with us online via Facebook Live, or by joining the conference call. Worship services begin at 11:15 am.

Updated Contact Information:

Has any of your contact information changed in the last year? If so, contact Stephanie in the church office to update your information.

Liturgist Sign-Up:

Liturgists are needed for the upcoming months. There is a sign-up sheet on the entry table by the front door. All are welcome to serve as liturgist!

Time and Talents:

Please be on the lookout for a "time and talents sheet" that will be coming soon. We're in need of counters, liturgists, Sunday School leaders, and COF/ CSPC Join Actions Team members, among other things. You have a talent to share, we have needs—it all comes together!