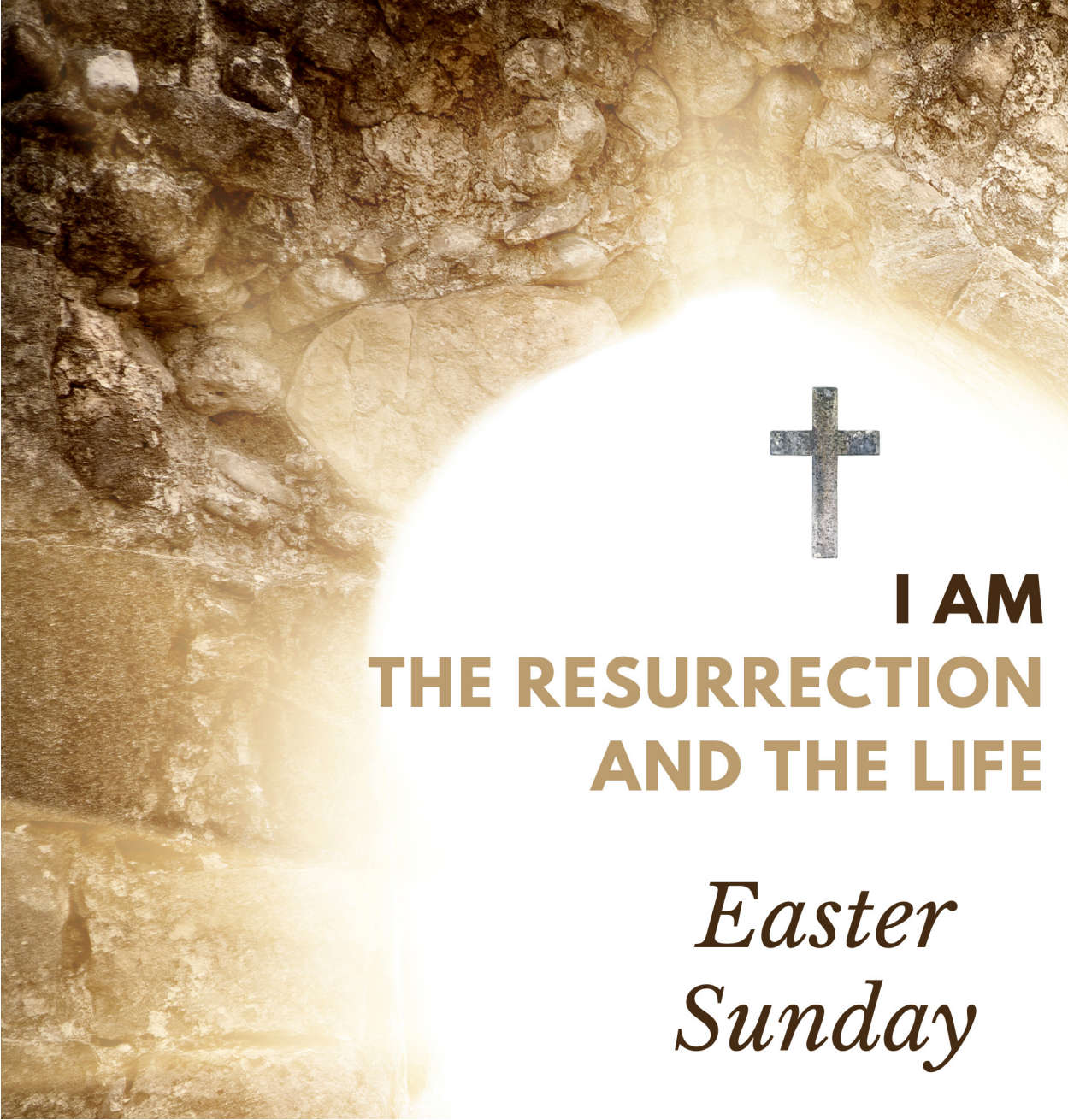





Connecting all to Christ to become
healthy in God and courageous in love.




**I AM
THE RESURRECTION
AND THE LIFE**

*Easter
Sunday*

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025
Traditional Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am

Entering into the Spirit of Worship

Greeting 8:30 - Tom Beattie 11:00 - Monica Coventry

Prelude *Easter Fanfare* Penfield

***Call to Worship** Pastor Nancy Conley

Leader: The Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Grace be upon you all as you witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

People: We bring all that we are and lay it at your feet, O Christ.

Leader: The Lord's blessing is upon us: life forevermore.

People: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today (vs. 1- 4)* #251

The Uniting of our Hearts in Prayer

Prayer 8:30 - Pastor Robby Strock
11:00 - Pastor Nancy Conley

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Proclaiming the Word of God

Anthem
8:30 *Come See the Tomb* Curry
Sanctuary Choir

11:00 *He Rolled Away the Stone* Sharp
Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading John 20:1-10 pg. 878

An Affirmation of Faith

We believe that Jesus is, as he said, “the way, the truth and the life.” We believe that Jesus came from God, spoke the words of God and through his life, death and resurrection points all women and men to God. We trust Jesus’ word that he came to show us the life and light of God. Therefore, we have no reason to worry or be afraid. We affirm that Jesus is with God now, preparing a place for us in God’s eternal kingdom. We trust in the grace and mercy of God to redeem us and all creation for purposes that God ordained before the foundation of the world. We put our faith and hope in this Jesus, the eternally begotten Son of God. Amen.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Offering our Gifts to God | <i>Lord of the Dance</i> Bells of the Lakes | arr. McChesney |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------|

***Response in Song** (11:00 only)

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication** (11:00 only)

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------|
| *Hymn (11:00 only) | <i>He is Lord</i> | #268 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------|

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------|
| Scripture | John 11:17-27 | pg. 870 |
|------------------|---------------|---------|

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------|
| Message | <i>I Am the Resurrection and the Life</i> I Am | Pastor Bryan George |
|----------------|---|---------------------|

Sending Forth

| | | |
|----------------------|---|------|
| *Closing Hymn | <i>Low in the Grave He Lay (He Arose)</i> | #252 |
|----------------------|---|------|

(11:00 only) If you would like to be a part of singing the Hallelujah Chorus with the Chancel choir, come to the choir loft during the singing of the closing hymn. Music will be provided to you.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| *Choral Benediction (11:00 only) | Hallelujah Chorus | Handel |
|---|-------------------|--------|

***Benediction**

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------|
| Postlude | <i>Toccata</i> | Dubois |
|-----------------|----------------|--------|

*Those who are able, please stand
Choir Director - Abe Gibson; Interim Organist - Philip Schleich; Interim Accompanist - Lorraine George

Sermon Outline

Focus: Jesus enters the paths of death and grief to show us the way towards abundant and eternal life. When we walk in faith, we discover the way to a significant existence.

I) Have the “dire wolves” come back to life?

Colossal CEO *“we took DNA from an (ancient tooth) and made ...dire wolf puppies.”*

Lynch *“All you can do now is make something look superficially like something else”*

II) The resurrection of Lazarus (John 11)

Anticipation of what is to come (v. 14-15)

“I am the resurrection and the life.” (v. 25)

The meaning of anastasis “standing up again”

Not just on the last day... each day

Taking advantage of a new lease on life

The power of belief: Leads to new life (v. 26-27)

III) Trading Places with Lazarus

Lazarus left the tomb, but the price was that Jesus had to enter it (v. 45-48)

Taylor: *“Jesus traded his life for Lazarus’ life, among others, by doing with his friend what God was about to do with him.”*

IV) The Good news of Jesus being Resurrection and Life

Standing in line at calling hours

Illustration of my hard drive crashing

Keller: *“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn’t rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead.”*

Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

Contemporary Worship - 9:30 & 11:00 am

Praise Songs

*Christ The Lord Is Risen Today (He Is Not Dead)
Death Was Arrested*

Welcome

9:30 - Matt Ritzert

Oasis - Julia Fabich

Worship & Offering Song

Empty Grave

Prayer

Pastor Robby Strock

Scripture

John 11:17-26

Message

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

I Am

Pastor Jared Priset

Closing Song

Living Hope

Benediction

Sermon Outline

Focus: In the gospel of John, we read that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. This is not only true for our future, but for us TODAY as we step out of our spiritual tombs and step into something new in Christ.

I. I AM...Resurrection and Life

Harry Houdini and the unlocked door

II. Jesus is the Resurrection – **victory over death**

Mary and Mary – resurrection as a future event

1 Corinthians 15:55: *“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”*

The Early Church – Courage in the face of death

Easter means that no grave can hold us because no grave could hold Jesus!

III. Jesus is the Life – **the power to live today**

John 10:10 – *“I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.”*

2 Corinthians 5:17 – *“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”*

Easter is also about Jesus bringing us out of our tombs – addiction, depression, sin, and hopelessness – Jesus conquered death for both himself AND us!

What spiritual tomb are you walking around in?

IV. The invitation – will you walk out?

John 5:24 *“...whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.”*

Many people choose to stay in the grave – we are invited to step out every single day

Tori Hope Petersen – stepping into something new

V. Jesus to Martha – “Do you believe this?”

Will you step into resurrection life?

Church Office

The Church office will be closed on **Monday, April 21st** in celebration of the Easter holiday. Regular office hours will resume on *Tuesday, April 22nd*.

Explore

Widow's Connection

The widow's connection group will meet at LaPizzaria on **Wednesday, April 30th**, at 11:30 am. RSVP to Sue Hoffmeyer by *April 27th*, 330-704-1774.

Women's Book Clubs

The Wednesday Book Club will be discussing 'Women' by Kristen Hannah and choosing books for the next year on **Wednesday, May 7th**, 10:00 am in room 201. The group will not meet again until September.

Join us for the Saturday Book Club on **Saturday, May 17th**, 9:00 am, at the Panera Bread on Belpar by Marc's. We will be discussing 'Women' by Kristen Hannah. For more information contact Kelly Lorenz, 330-904-0136.

PACT - Praying for Adult Children Together

Our PACT group meets the first Thursday of each month (**May 1st**) at 1:00 pm in room 206. This group meets to pray for our adult children and our grandchildren. PACT is open to anyone who would like to join us. Prayer requests are kept confidential. For more information, contact Sue Hirschman, suehirschman6@gmail.com.

Serve

VBS Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers for our Morning VBS Program. Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to: Station Leaders, Station Assistants, Crew Leaders, Snack helpers, Dinner team, nursery workers and decorating team. Our VBS Volunteer Training meeting will be **Tuesday, April 29th**, 10:00 am or 6:30 pm in room 201. If you would like to volunteer for VBS contact Angela Fritz, angela@churchofthelakes.org.

Blood Drive

Church of the Lakes is hosting a blood drive on **Saturday, May 17th**, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm in the Activity Center. The American Red Cross is in critical need of blood donations. Signup for an appointment at redcrossblood.org and search using sponsor code 'churchofthelakes'.

Baby Bundles Plus

Baby Bundles Plus is a group that makes stuffed animals, little dolls for Children's Hospital and baby quilts for the needy organizations & hospitals. Join us on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month (**April 24th**), 9:30 am in room 108. Everyone is welcome. It is a great chance for fellowship and to make new friends. We always need someone to draw, cut or stuff items.

WAYS TO GIVE

Visit churchofthelakes.org/online-giving or text: **give to 330-961-5524**

Offering envelopes are located in the pew pad clipboards.

For EFT instructions contact Stephanie Strock, stephanie@churchofthelakes.org

JESUS in the HOME

Family FUN Night

BOWLING NIGHT

Sunday, April 27th
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Register at churchofthelakes.org

\$12 per person

2 hours of bowling
shoe rental
& pizza dinner



Faithful Finances


A Practical Christian Budgeting Workshop

JOIN US FOR A TRANSFORMATIONAL BUDGETING SEMINAR THAT BLENDS PRACTICAL FINANCIAL STRATEGIES WITH TIMELESS CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE WORKSHOP:

- Everything we have comes from God
- Give to God first
- Resist greed and materialism


SUNDAY
May 4th

 12:30 - 2:30 pm

 Activity Center

This is a FREE event

Presentation by Paul Guerra

Lunch & childcare are provided

REGISTER BY
MONDAY, APRIL 28TH

Visit
churchofthelakes.org
or call 330-499-8972

All Daughters of God — Luncheon

Saturday, May 10th
11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Activity Center

Join us to celebrate that we are all daughter's of God. For fun, ladies are encouraged to accessorize with your favorite or most creative purse.



Catered by Mr. Mike's
Play Bingo
Fellowship

\$15 per person

Register at churchofthelakes.org



Church of the Lakes

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

For children age 4 - 6th grade

Mornings: June 9th - 13th
8:45 am - 12:15 pm

Evenings: June 8th - 12th
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE:

CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG

Submit your news, information or announcements to betsi@churchofthelakes.org.



Please pray for: Pam Holt, Sheri Grunwald

Our condolences to Kathy Washington and family on the passing of her mother, Karen Skinner

To submit prayer requests call 330-499-8972 ext. 203 or email: prayer@churchofthelakes.org.