

Featured Element of Worship: Eastertide

Have you ever had a celebration that you wished just wouldn't end? For the Christian, should not Easter be one such celebration? After all, there is no greater reason to celebrate than the fact that Jesus has risen from the dead and ever lives to intercede for us as our King!

This is why Easter is not just a day in the church calendar, but a season. *Eastertide* is comprised of the seven weeks from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. The paraments on the pulpit, lectern and communion table remain white throughout this season symbolizing the purity that is ours in Christ Jesus and the joy that we share on account of the fact that he lives!

Of course, in its fullest sense, Easter isn't just a season either—it's a new way of life. With Christ as the firstfruits of resurrection, we now walk in the sure hope that all who are his will one day share in his resurrection glory. May this truth guide our thoughts throughout Eastertide and beyond!

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Choir

We Have Gathered

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-2

O Come, Let Us Sing

95B

PSALM 95

1. ¹O come, let us sing with joy to the LORD; our Sav - ior and
 2. ³How great is the LORD, our God and our King, a - bove all the
 3. ⁶O come, let us bow and wor - ship the LORD; be - fore him we
 4. To - day if you hear the voice of the LORD, ⁸then close not your

rock, loud prais - es ac - cord. ²With thanks let us en - ter his
 gods, his great - ness we sing. ⁴Earth's val - leys and moun - tains he
 kneel, with prais - es a - dore. ⁷For he is our God; we're the
 hearts to God's ho - ly word, like those in the des - ert of

(continued next page)

pres - ence and raise our shouts of thanks - giv - ing in psalms filled with praise.
 holds in his hand. ⁵He made them and rules them—the sea and the land.
 sheep of his hand, and we are his peo - ple who dwell in his land.
 Mas - sah that day, like those who at Mer - i - bah would not o - bey.

5. ⁹Your fathers provoked and tested me there,
 although in my works they saw my great care.
¹⁰For forty long years I my people abhorred,
 that whole generation which hardened its heart.

6. I said, "They have hearts that wander astray;
 they do not affirm my excellent way."
¹¹And so, in my anger, on oath I declared,
 "The rest I have promised, they never will share."

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CCLI# 594962

HANOVER (Croft) 10.10.11.11.
 William Croft, 1708

We Meet with God through Prayer, Scripture & Song...

Corporate Prayer of Confession & Silent Confession

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that by nature we are slaves to sin, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking that your grace might relieve our distress. Have compassion on us, most gracious God, Father of mercies, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt, also grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness that are pleasing in your sight: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(adapted from John Calvin's Geneva Liturgy of 1543)

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Elder Sam Winegarden

The 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. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem

Every Valley

Choir

Unison Scripture Reading

John 20:19-23

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Pastoral Prayer

1. Some - times a light sur - pris - es the Chris - tian while he sings;
 2. In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue
 3. It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;
 4. Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their wont - ed fruit shall bear,

it is the Lord, who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings:
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion, and find it ev - er new;
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple too:
 though all the field should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there;

when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;
 yet God the same a - bid - eth, his praise shall tune my voice,

a sea - son of clear shin - ing, to cheer it af - ter rain.
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.
 for, while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

Sermon

Rev. Pete Scribner

John 20:24-29

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."

²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Three Connections between Seeing and Believing:

1) Not seeing...therefore not believing

2) Seeing...therefore believing

3) Not seeing...yet still believing



*The Incredulity of
Saint Thomas*

Caravaggio (1602)

Statement of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

nor why, un - worth - y, Christ in love re - deemed me for his own.
 nor how be - liev - ing in his Word wrought peace with - in my heart.
 • re - veal - ing Je - sus through the Word, cre - at - ing faith in him.
 of wea - ry ways or gold - en days, be - fore his face I see.
 nor if I'll walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air.

Refrain

But "I know whom I have be - liev - ed, and am per - suad - ed that he is

a - ble to keep that which I've com - mit - ted un - to him a - gainst that day."

David W. Whittle, 1883
CCLI# 594962

EL NATHAN C.M.ref.
James McGranahan, 1883

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I Know Whom I Have Believed

1. I know not why God's won - drous grace to me he has made known,
 2. I know not how this sav - ing faith to me he did im - part,
 3. I know not how the Spir - it moves, con - vinc - ing men of sin,
 4. I know not what of good or ill may be re - served for me,
 5. I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noon - day fair,

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We Depart into the World...

Benediction

Parting Hymn

God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

WELCOME to this morning's service of corporate worship!

The Flowers adorning our worship service this morning have been provided by Lil & Laurie Goff in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary on April 9th, and by Rozie Aube in memory of her beloved husband and best friend, Stephen Vincent Aube, and in celebration of the Holy Scriptures because (in her words), "It is a real delight to read and study the word of God. Oh, how it causes my heart to go out to God in adoration and love to him!"

"...and the Two became One..."

The Diaconate, as an expression of the church's commitment to marriage, recognizes couples who are members of the church on certain wedding anniversaries (their first, all divisible by five, and all over 50).

Today we are pleased to celebrate with:

Al & Karen Dipzinski (58 years on April 6th)

Lil and Laurie Goff (60 years on April 9th)

Free Concert - Invite your friends and family to join us at Calvary May 1st at 7pm for the Flint Concert Band's annual Spring Concert. It's a wonderful night of music followed by refreshments and fellowship. There is no charge for the event, but donations to the Flint Concert Band are accepted.

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated as a part of our corporate worship next Lord's Day. The congregation is encouraged to take time during the week to prepare our hearts for this celebration of the union we share with Christ our Savior and the unity we are to subsequently share with one another.

Fellowship Meal - Next Sunday following worship the Martha Mary Circle will provide a meal for us after worship. There is no charge, though donations are accepted.

Offerings are received each week in the wooden donation box in the Narthex. We have placed it there as a convenience for our members and friends. If you are visiting us this Sunday, please feel no pressure to make any donation. We are glad to have you simply be our guest today, and invite you to join us for a donut and coffee in the Fellowship Hall after worship!

Meditation for the Week

Excellent Jerome,

You ought to rejoice in this temptation of the devil because it is a certain sign that God is propitious and merciful to you.

You say that the temptation is heavier than you can bear, and that you fear that it will so break and beat you down as to drive you to despair and blasphemy. I know this wile of the devil. If he cannot break a person with his first attack, he tries by persevering to wear him out and weaken him until the person falls and confesses himself beaten.

Whenever this temptation comes to you, avoid entering upon a disputation with the devil and do not allow yourself to dwell on those deadly thoughts, for to do so is nothing short of yielding to the devil and letting him have his way.

Try as hard as you can to despise those thoughts which are induced by the devil. In this sort of temptation and struggle, contempt is the best and easiest method of winning over the devil.

Laugh your adversary to scorn and ask who it is with whom you are talking.

By all means flee solitude, for the devil watches and lies in wait for you most of all when you are alone. This devil is conquered by mocking and despising him, not by resisting and arguing with him. . .

When the devil throws our sins up to us and declares we deserve death and hell, we ought to speak thus:

"I admit that I deserve death and hell. What of it? Does this mean that I shall be sentenced to eternal damnation? By no means. For I know One who suffered and made a satisfaction in my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Where he is, there I shall be also."

Yours,

Martin Luther

Luther: Letters of Spiritual Counsel, trans. and ed. Theodore G. Tappert (orig., 1960; reprint, Vancouver, BC: Regent College Publishing, 2003), 85.

Church Staff

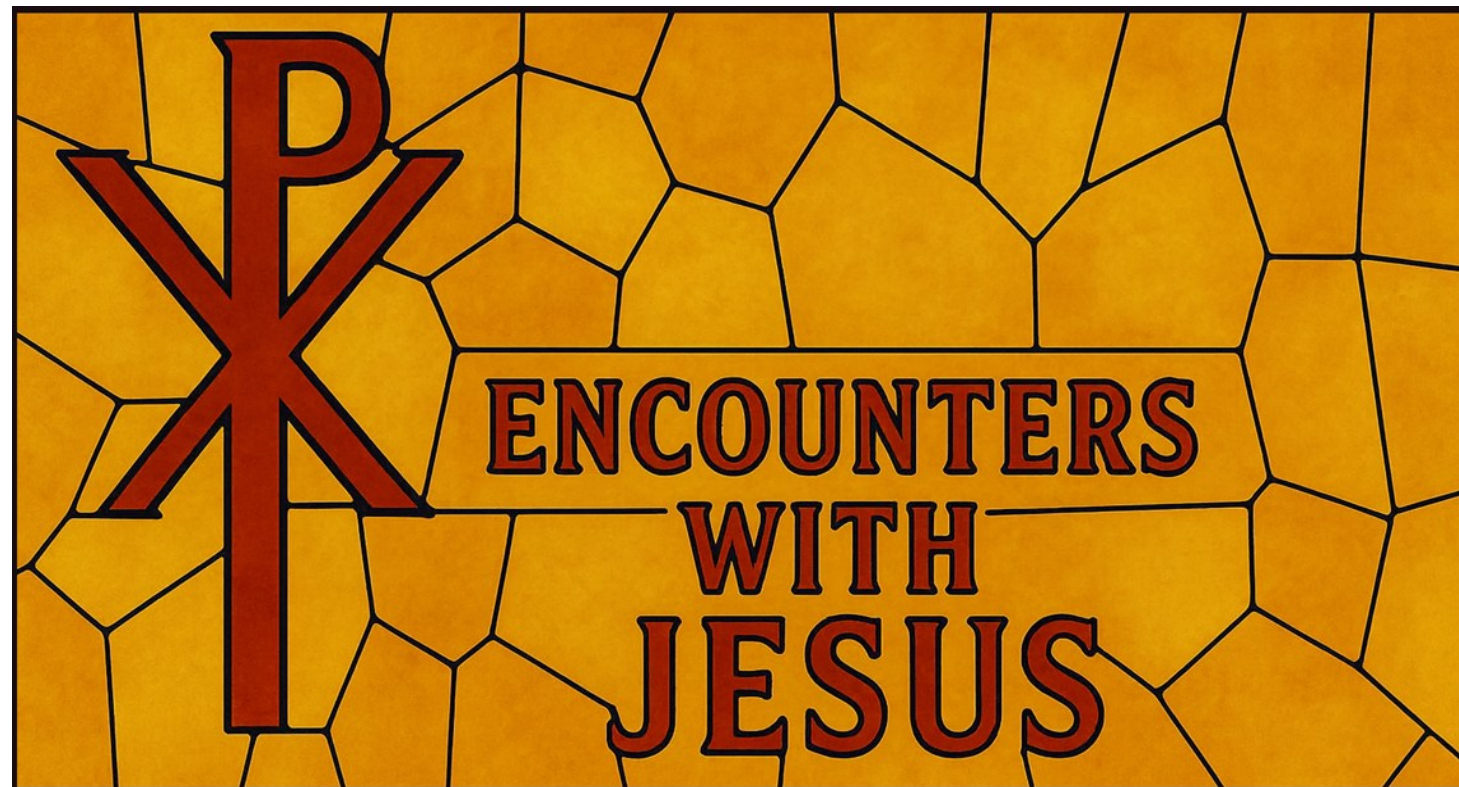
Pastor
Director of Music
Music Minister
Custodian

Pete Scribner
Susan Lechota
Chris Holmberg
Vicky Haughey

This Week at Calvary

Today	9:40	Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome)
	10:00	Worship Service followed by coffee, donuts and fellowship
	11:30	Sunday School
Tuesday	2:00	Tuesdays at Two
	6:00	Diaconate
Next Sunday	9:40	Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome)
	10:00	Worship Service followed by coffee, donuts, and fellowship dinner
	11:30	Sunday School

Throughout the week, as you ready your hearts for next Sunday's service of corporate worship, consider our Meditation for the Week (printed inside the bulletin), and familiarize yourself with Luke 24:13-35 which will be next Sunday's sermon text.



Calvary Presbyterian Church

April 12, 2026



Our Mission - We exist to know, worship, serve, and enjoy the one true God.

Our Vision - We seek to love God completely, love others selflessly, and everywhere proclaim Christ: crucified, risen, and reigning forever.

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