

He Has Risen!

The New Church of Montgomery and the Glendale New Church
April 17, 2022

Behold, today is the day
of the resurrection: let us glory in
the feast, let us embrace one
another in joy and say, O friends
and enemies, too; we forgive
everything on resurrection day...
Let us all sing together; Christ is
risen from the dead!"

BYZANTINE LITURGY

New Church of Montgomery & Glendale New Church Easter Worship



In all of us there is a sense of what ought to be, which will not let us rest until we give ourselves to its demands. It bids us rise above our lower nature and to seek the worth and meaning of life in our endless spiritual possibilities. It stirs our concern for all people and for a better world. Where does this yearning come from, if not from a God whose love dwells in the inmost recesses of our souls and is drawing us to himself, refreshing us in his image and likeness? We see this image and likeness in our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, risen and glorified, who has come again in the truth, power and glory of His holy Word as He promised He would.

PRELUDE: Bach's Orchestral Suite No.3 in D Major - Freiburger Barockorester

TRANSITION: Handel's Hallelujah Chorus – Excerpt – London Philharmonic Orchestra

WELCOME & OPENING OF THE WORD

Rev. Clark Echols

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Rev. Dr. Sherrie Connelly

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Darkness has been vanquished! The brilliant Light of Hope has come! Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

OPENING PRAYER

- Rev. Dr. Sherrie Connelly

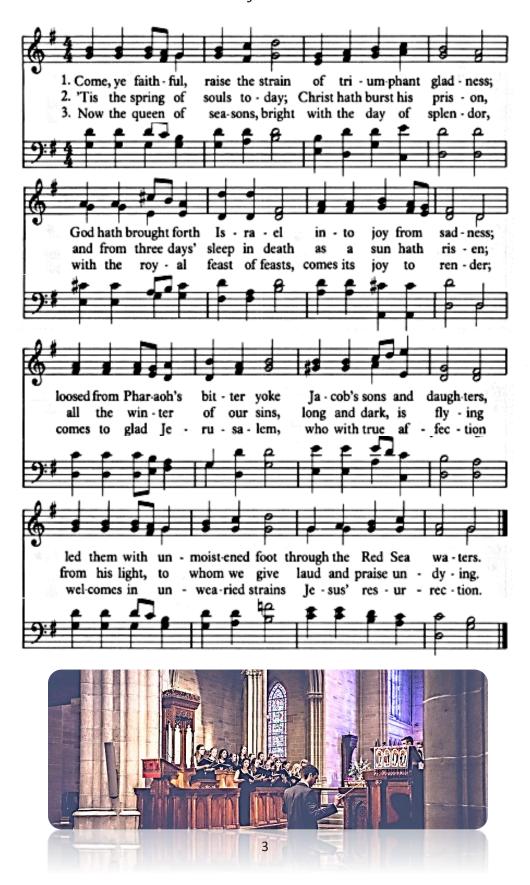
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

People of Ukraine JD & mom Marie Rev. Clark & family Dave & Terry, Don & Gay Queen Elizabeth Pat Barker Julie & Family Tim & son & daughter Rev. Dick Josh & family, Marilyn F., Sue Bob R. & Elsie F. Rev. Ron Larry & daughter Leslie Shirley & Sandra, & Kristen David & Joan, Amy & Nathan struggling families Mike A.

Please add your silent prayers

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; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but delver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



READINGS FROM THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 45: 1-14



Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute." "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly." Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them.

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20: 1-10

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. 4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. 8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLES

We light the first candle to honor the good and truth to be found in all spiritual traditions.

We light the second candle to honor the Earth and all of life as the creation of the Divine, God of us all.

We light the third candle to honor and support the variety of our individual paths which together, make our one spiritual community

We light the fourth candle to honor and provide an open and safe place for all who seek greater understanding and a life of deepening spirituality.

HYMN:

Hymn of promise

 Doane College Alumni Choir and Congregation, First-Plymouth Church

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

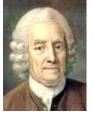
There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning, in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

INSPIRATION FROM OUR TEACHINGS:

Heaven and Hell, n.461

Numerous experiences in the spiritual world have made it clear to me that when we cross over from the physical world into the spiritual world, which happens when we die, we carry with us everything that is ours, or everything belonging to our personhood, except our earthly body. For when we enter the spiritual world, or the life after death, we are in a similar body to our body in this world.



There seems to be no difference since we do not feel or see any difference, but now our body is spiritual, and so is separated and purified from earthly elements. When something spiritual touches and sees something spiritual, it is just the same as when something physical touches and sees something physical.

Arcana Coelestia, n.5885-5887 (paraphrased)

"And Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph!' Does my father still live?" signifies that when proper preparation has occurred in regeneration a manifestation of the divine happens in the internal celestial of a person via influx. There is no other way that the divine operation occurs within people except from the internal into the external, or from the higher capacities of the soul into the lower and as yet unmitigated passions of the ego. This occurs through a higher realization, which when it happens, opens a new channel of insight and spiritual power. "I am Joseph! Does my father live?" shows that the divine lives anew when the I Am is recognized."

MESSAGE:

Bodily Risen

Rev. Dr Jim Lawrence







Communion

Rev. Dr. Sherrie Connelly, Celebrant

COMMUNION HYMN:

Let Us Break Bread Together

- John Wesley Slider



CALL TO COMMUNION

The table is set; the bread and wine are ready. It is the table for communing with the Christ, Risen and Glorified. It is the table of sharing with the wounded, the grieving, and the poor of the world, the humble and hurting and in need, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, the natural creation of God, given as our temporal home. So, come to this table, you who have faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been before, you who try to follow Christ and fall short of the mark, come, it is the Lord who invites you.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Dear Lord, when you sat at the table, sharing communion with your disciples, you proclaimed that God's love and care knows no bounds. We proclaim again the comfort and challenge of the truth as we prepare ourselves to share the Lord's Table and be nourished by the Bread of Life. As we join in this sacrament, let us not forget that this act of sharing the bread and wine, is not only between each individual and God, it is the coming together of a people that are of one mind, one body, one heart, a family sharing communion as one with You, our Lord and God, Healer, Comforter and Renewer.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY SUPPER

INSTITUTION

(Breaking the bread)

When it was evening, Jesus sat at the table with the twelve disciples; and as they were eating, he took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

(Pouring the wine)

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many, for the forgiveness of sins."

ELEVATION

(Elevating the bread)

Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him."

(Elevating the cup)

"And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they may also be consecrated in truth. Sanctify them in the truth; thy Word is truth."

"Now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified."

PRESENTATION

(Presenting the bread)

Jesus said, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

(All partake of the bread)

"Whoever comes to me shall never hunger."

(Presenting the wine)

Jesus said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you."

(All partake of the wine)

"Whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

Grace be to you and peace, from Him who is, and who was and who is to come.



CLOSING HYMN:

Christ the Lord Has Risen Today

- Glen Ellen Chorale



BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jim Lawrence

CLOSING OF THE WORD

Rev. Clark Echols

Postlude:

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

- Choir of Westminster Abbey & the Choir of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James Palace



APRIL 17TH, 2022 ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Coffee & Conversation</u> – Join us at McDonalds at Montgomery Road & Weller on Fridays from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

<u>Swedenborg Study</u> – Please consider joining this online group Monday evening, April 25th at 7:00 pm. Information on the books we are using can be found below*.

Board of Directors – meets Monday, April 18th, 4:00 pm online.

<u>Garden Work Party #2</u> – On <u>Thursday</u>, <u>April 28th</u> we plan to some planting of the annuals at the church, starting at 1 pm.

<u>Matthew 25 Ministries</u> community outreach is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th from 11 am to 1 pm with lunch out to follow – an easy and effective way anyone can help those in need. Other dates are being set for summer and fall. *Let Brenda know if you're participating – she needs visitor info for M25M.*

<u>Choose Joy Now</u> - *Trillium Small Group Experiences* is delighted to collaborate with the Arizona Spiritual Growth Foundation & New Church Groups to offer a <u>free</u> six-week online course beginning **Monday, May 2,** 7:00-8:30 pm, that encourages you to engage with your spiritual growth, with the fun & support of a group setting. Click and open <u>this link</u> to sign up or learn more:

<u>Swedenborg Foundation recruiting a CEO</u> seeks a nonprofit business leader skilled in driving organizational success and empowering high performing staff. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the CEO will have management responsibility for a growing, impactful organization with a current investment portfolio of \$20 million, annual expense budget of \$3 million, and 34 staff, Email <u>ceosearch@swedenborg.com</u> for more information, with subject line "CEO position." Pete Toot can also provide more information. The application deadline is May 16th.

Member Strategic Planning - May 22, 2022 — With the sale of the last Kemper Road property, our use of new technologies, and new faces and geography in our membership, it is time once again to do some introspective work on ministries, facilities, and human resource needs. *Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend*. This will be a hybrid (online & in-person) event.

<u>Gaming Committee</u> – We're figuring out on-line games to include in Game Night. Got an idea? Check with Gloria, Susan, or Sherrie.

<u>Girls On The Run</u> - We are supporting <u>Girls On The Run</u> with water bottles for their 5K run in May. You can check out the link to see what they do, or speak with Shannon to learn more.

THE NEW CHURCH OF MONTGOMERY



Worship & Study Group Schedule

APRIL

Sun 4/17 Easter Sunday
Rev. Dr. Jim Lawrence
Mon 4/25 Study Group

MAY

Sun 5/1 Rev. Dr. Sherrie Connelly
Sun 5/8 Glendale Service / Study Group
Sun 5/15 Rev. Julie Conaron
Sun 5/22 Strategic Planning Event
Sun 5/29 Pete Toot

JUNE

Sun 6/6 Informal Lay Service
Sun 6/12 Visiting Minister / Study Group
Sun 6/19 New Church Day Celebration
Revs. Clark & Sherrie
Sun 6/26 Convention Sunday Online

Contact us Newchurchofmontgomery@gmail.com

Website – follow us to get notifications https://www.Newchurchofmonygomery.org

Social Media

https://www.facebook.com/NewChurchCincy/

Mail Address

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*Right click link & select "open hyperlink." In online bulletin. <u>When Tragedy Strikes</u> is a free .pdf from Swedenborg Foundation. <u>Suffering is Never for Nothing</u> is at Amazon, as new hardback \$13.59, \$9.44 as Kindle and free with Audible trial as an audiobook.