

***Welcome to***  
***WILSON MEMORIAL UNION CHURCH***  
*A Member Congregation, International Council of Community Churches*



**April 16, 2023**  
The Second Sunday of Easter  
10:00 a.m.

7 Valley Road  
Watchung, NJ  
Phone: (908) 755-5020  
Website: [www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org](http://www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org)  
Email: [admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org)

**APRIL 16, 2023**

*The Second Sunday of Easter*

**10:00 AM**

**\*Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit**

**Bold print** indicates a unison reading

**PRELUDE**

*All People that on Earth do Dwell*

By, L Bourgeois

Pianist, Roberta Smith

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

We light this candle as a symbol of the crucifixion, resurrection, and ongoing rising of Christ.

**HYMN#66**

*To God be the Glory*

By, F Crosby

**Refrain:** Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

**WELCOME**

Matthew May

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist, Al Ellis

Adapted from Psalm 16

You give us all good things.

**In you we take our refuge.**

We praise you, Lord,

**Who gives us hope and joy.**

We are not shaken,

**When we keep our eyes on the Lord.**

We praise you with great joy

**Fill us, Lord.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Adapted from Psalm 16

In unison: **Keep us safe, O Lord, for we know that goodness stems from you. Grant us strength as we live as Easter people, rising from the cross to continue your work. Place us on your path so that we might see and accept the cup you placed before us. We are happy in your faithfulness to us that you would walk with us and guide us. Lead us on, Holy One. Amen.**

## HYMN#428

*When Peace like a River (It is Well with My Soul)*

By, H Spafford

(Verses 1,3,4)

**Refrain:** It is well, it is well, with my soul, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

## PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

*(All are invited to participate verbally in our prayer of reconciliation)*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

## **ANTHEM**

By, Selah

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Psalmist, Carolyn Musacchio,  
Accompanist Jim Musacchio

## **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Please respond with "Lord, hear our Prayer"

### **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 deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen**

## **ANTHEM**

By, C Underwood

*Jesus Take the Wheel*

Psalmist, Angela Della Ventura

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, you heavenly host,  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

## **GATHERING OF OUR CHILDREN**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means.

“Listen to these words, fellow Israelites! Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him. You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you. In accordance with his own plan God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to you; and you killed him by letting sinful men crucify him. But God resurrected him from death, setting him free from its power, because it was impossible that death should hold him prisoner. For David said about him,

‘I saw the Lord before me at all times;

He is near me, and I will not be troubled.

And so I am filled with gladness,

and my words are full of joy.

And I, mortal though I am,

will rest assured in hope,

because you will not abandon me in the world of the dead;

you will not allow your faithful servant to rot in the grave.

You have shown me the paths that lead to life,

and your presence will fill me with joy.’

“My friends, I must speak to you plainly about our famous ancestor King David.

He died and was buried, and his grave is here with us to this very day. He was a prophet, and he knew what God had promised him: God had made a vow that he would make one of David's descendants a king, just as David was. David saw what God was going to do in the future, and so he spoke about the resurrection of the Messiah when he said,

‘He was not abandoned in the world of the dead;

his body did not rot in the grave.’

God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact.

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

**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.**

## **SENDING OUR CHILDREN**

### **SERMON**

Journeying Through the Cross

Matthew May

### **ANTHEM**

*You Raise Me Up*

Psalmist, Matthew May

By R Lovland

## **BLESSING OUR CHILDREN**

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Come Thou Fount*

By J Wyeth

Pianist, Roberta Smith

## **How to Support the Work of Wilson Memorial Church**

**In Service:** You are invited to place your offerings in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

**By Mail:** Gifts can be sent to the office at:  
7 Valley Road  
Watchung, NJ 07069

**Online:** Use our secure giving portal by clicking the “Giving” link on our website; [www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org](http://www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org)

**Text-to-Give:** Text WILSONCHURCH to (908) 460-8818 and follow the setup prompts for your first time. Once set up, you can simply text the gift amount to the above number.

Follow us on social media @mywilsonchurch

You can call the office for Pastoral assistance at  
(908) 755-5020 or email [admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org)

Rev. Michael Droege, Pastor  
Timothy Walton, Director of Music & Worship Arts  
Matthew May, Seminary Intern  
Roberta Smith, Accompanist  
Pam Cox, Bell Choir Director  
Jacob Feldman, A/V Specialist  
Tina Kelly, Administrator  
Harold Kreis, Sexton  
*The Rev. Barbara Peters, Pastor Emerita*

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**For Prayer:** Marge Balcerski • Joe Higgins, and his family • The family of Karen Cito who passed away on April 7<sup>th</sup> • Prayers for peace in places of War.

We will welcome Rev. John Woodcock to Wilson on April 30<sup>th</sup> as our guest speaker for Worship Service.

**Sound Healing:** A Watchung resident and local practitioner, Judit Duran will offer another Sound session from 4:30-6pm on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. This session will be 90 minutes and will offer discussion to better understand the technique. Please register on our website. Space is limited.

**Blood Drive:** The Wilson Memorial and St Mary's Covenant Committee will be hosting a blood drive in loving memory of Fran Ellis on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> from 8am-2pm. Registration can be found on our website.

Save the dates for **Homecoming Weekend**, September 29- October 1.

**Please note:**

Our Pastor, Rev. Michael Droege, will be on leave until the end of June.

In his absence, pastoral concerns will be attended to by Matthew May, our Seminarian from Drew Theological School and Rev. Beth Scibenski, a longtime friend of Pastor Michael and friend of Wilson.

Please contact Tina in our office and she will direct your concern.