



Reflections

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ISSUE 15

What Does the Story Say to You?

It might seem like an obvious question: When you hear the Easter Gospel story, what does it say to you? Everyone who's at all familiar with the story we will once again read in worship this Sunday knows the answer: the story says the women who came to the tomb discovered it was empty. And, depending on which Gospel is being read, the story says one angel, two angels, or someone Mary Magdalene assumes is the gardener, reveal(s) that Jesus has risen. In Luke's Gospel, which we will read this Easter, two of the angels ask the frightened women, "Why do you search for the Living One among the dead?"

Mark's Gospel ends with the women fleeing from the tomb at the word of Jesus' rising; most scholars believe the original ending of Mark has no story of the Risen Jesus actually showing up to anyone. Matthew, Luke, and John all tell very different stories of various ways and places the Risen Jesus appears to his followers.

But I realize I've drifted away from my original question. I've just written about what the Easter Gospel stories say. That's a different question than, What do they say to you? That question invites us into the realm of what the Easter story means. That question raises other questions, like, *What difference does this story make in my life? What do I believe this story says, and what don't I believe this story says? How does this story invite me to live in a new way?*

You know me well enough by now to know I love questions. When I was doing online dating, one of the things I wrote on my profile was "believes questions are a lot more interesting than answers." I'm grateful Mike wasn't turned off by that! Because this is so true about me. I can tell if something I'm reading or hearing or watching is compelling to me by the number of questions that come up for me about it.

Which means I find the Easter story deeply compelling. When I get to the "end" of the story, it's nowhere near the end. There's so much I wonder about. So much I want to ask the Gospel-writer, the angel(s), the women and men, and the Risen One who appears in the story. And when I do ask them, I am left to imagine what they would say. Or, if I'm lucky, I'm part of a Bible study or discussion group, and we're all raising those questions, and sharing how we imagine the various characters would respond. And that's a beautiful thing to be part of, because sometimes someone says something we've never imagined that invites our faith down a path we never thought to go.

As you take in the words of Luke 24.1-12 this Easter Sunday morning, what might they say to you? And because you aren't the same person you were last Easter, I wonder what they might say to you this year that's different? Even though the Easter story may be very familiar to you, I encourage you to come to Easter worship open to discovering something new it in – maybe even expecting to discover something new. Let the story grab you, shake you up, surprise you. Let it sing a new song. Let it enter your life, and shine on it with a new light.

And then share with someone what "new" you experienced.

Dave Shull

In This Issue

[What Does the Story Say to You?](#)

[The Redeemer Community](#)

[The Wider Church](#)

[The Community Beyond](#)

[Prayers & Personals](#)

[Getting Ready for Sunday](#)

[OUR CONGREGATION](#)

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Office Assistant - Diane Brobeck

Custodian - Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director – Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chime Choir Director – Karen Kent

Reflections Editor - Judith Bird

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[REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH](#)

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The Redeemer Community

Youth Sponsor Easter Brunch; Donations to Go to Memorial Garden

Redeemer's youth are sponsoring an Easter Brunch Sunday, April 20, between the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services. Proceeds will go to Redeemer's Memorial Garden.

The youth are providing the main course while others are contributing side dishes. Contributions of fruit and a gallon of juice are still needed. Questions? Contact **Wendy Stoica**.

Redeemer to Hold Holy Week, Two Easter Worship Services

Redeemer will hold two worship services on Easter, April 20: one at 8:30 a.m. and the second at 11 a.m. with the Easter Brunch in between (see above). Only the second service will be livestreamed.

Also, during Holy Week, there will be a Maundy Thursday service on April 17 with foot- and hand-washing beginning at 7 p.m. here at Redeemer. This service will be livestreamed.

Following the service, folks are asked to stay to help **Michelle Clemence** strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday.

The Good Friday service will also be at 7 p.m. here at Redeemer. Members of Christ United Methodist Church will also be participating. It will be livestreamed.

Narthex Art Focuses on 'Reflection' for Lent, Easter

The Narthex Art theme for the Lent/Easter season is "Reflection." Almost all of the art on display has been created by members of Redeemer, and is meant to be interactive. "As you look into the mirrors, you become part of the art! We encourage you to take your time reading the information next to each piece, and reflect on what you see," writes **Emily Kent**.

"A journal is provided in the exhibit for those that would like to share reactions or thoughts (*reflections?!*) about the art."

See **Pastor Dave's** front page article as he asks questions to think about this Easter season.

Thanks and Please

Mary Benis writes, "Thanks to everyone who's already contributed to the Remembrance Garden landscaping. We're eagerly awaiting the official start date for the planting to begin. If you haven't yet sent in your contribution, please do that soon. The garden is such a meaningful addition to Redeemer's overall blueprint and mission that it's important for all of us to feel part of that effort. And if you've had a chance to see the landscape design on display in the Narthex, you know we're expecting that space to be beautiful, as well as meaningful.

"Contributions can be made however you choose – by check, bank transfer, or Tithe.ly online. You can also choose to make your contribution at a later date – just let us know when to expect it so we can include all donations in the total. The amount of each donation is less important than the number of us joining together to reach our goal. It's that sense of community that comes with being part of Redeemer that inspired the creation of a Remembrance Garden so many years ago. Now it needs all of us to help bring it to life. Please and thanks."

Adult Ed to Explore Buddhism with Don Luck, John Caron

On Sunday mornings from April 27-May 18, Redeemer members **Don Luck** and **John Caron** will offer a series of adult education sessions on Buddhism. Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- An introduction to the life of the Buddha.
- The Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path.
- What are the Refuge and Bodhisattva Vows?
- What is Enlightenment in Buddhist thought?
- What is Karma really?-

Class members will also do various brief Buddhist meditation practices. Instruction and guidance will be provided.

Calling All Singles!

Kathy Zwanziger writes, “Do you live alone and think this might be a good time to make some arrangement to notify someone that you ARE alive and well when you wake up in the morning?”

“Some folks like to tackle “Wordle” first thing in the day. I might like for someone in Columbus to know that I am enjoying another day. My sons live far away and wouldn’t be much help in a dire emergency.

“If you have ever thought along these lines, perhaps we could help each other. We might like to have a ‘Singles Group Wake-up Message’: just send a group text and get a reply from all involved.

“Another option would be to identify one partner to message or call as you begin your day -- nothing long or elaborate, just a brief notification that all is well. If there is no reply within a certain time period (or after a time when you are generally awake), it means we should look into the matter to see if there is a problem.

“Let me know if you are interested in some form of a well-being call/text so we can discuss the options further.”

‘Third Thursday’ Alternatives

Kathy Zwanziger writes, “Many Redeemer members have expressed disappointment that we will no longer be having our ‘Third Thursday’ food giveaways in the parking lot. **Ben Powers**, Lutheran Social Services, suggested to me that we could have that same afternoon as an additional day to work at the Food Pantry on the corner of Frebis and Champion.

“The Thursday hours are 12:30-4 p.m. [but not in June (Juneteenth) or November (Thanksgiving)]. The first 30 minutes are getting ready for the pantry to open: bagging sweet corn or apples or ? on one side and making sure the cases of food on the other side are open and ready to be distributed. Volunteers either hand out food (meat, dairy, bread, produce) directly to the clients (who have been checked in by an employee) or fill orders from printed (pre-ordered) lists. At least we are never in the rain! We would need to guarantee a certain number of volunteers monthly (perhaps 4 or 5). Several already work the 1st Wednesday of the month doing these same tasks. It’s a good time to get together with friends to help our neighbors. If you are interested in this opportunity, please let me know.

“Another opportunity is to help at Bishop Griffin Resource Center in their Produce Market or clothing store. Work in the produce market would be similar to that at the food pantry. Sorting and staging clothing or guiding the clients through the store are other options. For this an application and background check are necessary. Again, you may contact me if you are interested.

“A third option is to help at the Linden Produce Market – the first and third Wednesdays of each month.”

Non-Police Crisis Response Ballot Initiative Moves Ahead

Michele Disbro announced Sunday that the petitions are available for the local ballot initiative to create the non-police crisis response in the city. The goal is to collect 50,000 valid signatures by **Friday, June 27**. Registered voters who live in the city of Columbus can sign the petition. “The benchmark used is if you can vote in the mayoral race, you live in the city of Columbus. If you match this description, please consider signing. We will have them available to sign in the Narthex after church.”

Kristi Hildebrand added, “To collect signatures, you only need to be 18 or older. There are no requirements to validate signatures and that can be done from home. If you are interested in collecting signatures or validating signatures, please see **Kristi Hildebrand** or **Michele Disbro**.”

DOGE, Trump Administration Cuts Threaten BREAD Trees Initiative

Among the ongoing social justice campaigns that BREAD is pursuing in the community, is encouraging growth of the urban forest in Metro Franklin County, writes **Al Rider**. Central Ohio happens to have one of the thinnest urban forests in the U.S., less than the 40 percent tree cover that is considered a borderline for public health. More trees mean cleaner more breathable air, cooler summers, more birds and wildlife, and measurably lower disease levels. But the Columbus metro area has less tree cover than Brooklyn (!), especially in the more economically-challenged and industrial neighborhoods.

“The city of Columbus actually has adopted a very positive, forward-looking urban forestry [plan](#), and is pursuing it within the city limits, with BREAD’s full support. However, the cost-cutting and job-cutting plans of the current White House and DOGE team have called this into question. Executive Order No. 14154 titled “Unleashing American Energy” threatens to impound over \$1 trillion appropriated by Congress under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.”

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources was awarded nearly \$5.5 million for 36 urban forestry projects in the state last year. Columbus received a \$500,000 grant, and in 2024 spent \$394,000 planting 1,250 trees in

underserved neighborhoods -- expecting reimbursement by the federal government. But following the executive order, Columbus' Rec and Parks Department was informed that reimbursement would not be coming as promised. As a result, the rest of the program is on hold, since funding is now in question.

The city of Columbus has joined over a dozen plaintiffs filing a lawsuit in U.S. District Court alleging the executive order "...unlawfully def(ies) Congressional mandates by freezing, disrupting, and terminating funds that Congress had directed and appropriated to specific grant programs to benefit the environment."

Anyone living within city limits is encouraged to call or message their City Council members to support this environmental program and their members of Congress, "on behalf of a shadier, healthier metro area for all of us."

CROP Walk Set for Sept. 28; Donations Being Accepted Now

Connie Criswell reports that this year's CROP Walk for world hunger is scheduled for **Sunday, Sept. 28**. However, "They have asked for us to start fundraising NOW, because the need is greater than ever, especially since the current administration has slashed or eliminated aid funding.

The 2025 Redeemer Team page is up and available for donations [HERE](#). If anyone is interested in joining this year's team, please let Connie know. Those who plan to walk are **Kathy Zwanziger, Wendy Stoica, Heidi Sherer, and Connie Criswell**. Two new walkers have now been added to Redeemer's team: **Trina Thornton** and **Kelley Frank**!

Tuesday Bible Study Takes Week Off, Resumes April 22

The Tuesday Bible Study will take this **Tuesday, April 15** off, resuming with its discussion of the stories of Elijah and Elisha when the group meets on **Tuesday, April 22**. The group meets from 1-2:30 pm on Tuesdays for the Bible study. Folks can participate in-person or on Zoom.

Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for services over the winter. Readers, including youth and children, are encouraged to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, next to the Library.

Readings are sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings. **Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate.**

'Noisy Offering' Going to CRIS

For the season of Lent Redeemer's Noisy Offering will be going to the Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS). (See separate story, this issue for more information on CRIS.)

CRIS' mission is to help refugees and immigrants reach safety and stability, sustain self-sufficiency, and achieve successful integration into the Central Ohio community.

Due to the current political climate the funding for CRIS has been cut drastically, so those who can are asked to help.

The "Noisy Offering" is that donation of loose change that is made as one enters the Sanctuary.

Important Emails

Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

Info@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com – use for stewardship campaigns.

Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

Property@RedeemerLuth.com – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

Communications@redeemerluth.com – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put *Reflections* in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put “Bulletin” in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

Today's Issue of *Reflections* Double Issue; Newsletter Returns April 28

Today's issue of *Reflections* is a double issue as staff will be on vacation **Monday, April 21**. It will return with the issue on **Monday, April 28**.

Prayers Asked

Prayers for healing are asked for **Kevin Bailey's** sister **Karla Weaver** and for **Michelle Skoog** who had surgery recently for a “blown out” knee. Prayers for healing and comfort are asked for **Ellen Rose**, the daughter of **Ruth Murray**, who was recently hospitalized. Prayers for comfort are also asked for **Sam** and **Cynthia Hudson**, brother and sister-in-law of **Laura Warren** on the death of their son.

An Update from Naomi

Pastor Dave writes, “A couple of you have asked me recently about how **Naomi Morgan** is doing. Here's what she writes from her new home in New Jersey, where she's working on a master's degree in sacred theology, focusing on philosophy and theology at Drew University: ‘Drew is amazing!! I very, very much love it here – so many conversations and ideas and all the things that make a nerdy woman happy.

“‘And the people!!! You're constantly learning about other ways of being here – and hearing so many languages spoken. I sort of wake up every morning and pinch myself.’

“She sends her love to Redeemer!”

Thank You

Kathy Mimplitch sends her thanks to everyone who made **Madelyn Zimmer's** memorial service a meaningful time for her family and friends. “Thanks to those who donated food, who helped with setup, who served, and especially who helped with cleanup. The family was very grateful to have had this time together.”

Memorial Service for Ruth Boys Set

The family of **Ruth Boys** invites you to gather at Redeemer for a memorial service which will celebrate her life. It will be held on **Saturday, May 10**, with visitation at 10 a.m., the service at 11 a.m., and a lunch reception at noon.

“We hold family members and friends of this remarkable woman in love, and are grateful for the ways she enriched Redeemer and the ways her spirit remains alive in this place.”

***Christ in Our Home* for April-June Available**

The latest edition of the daily devotional booklet *Christ in Our Home* for April through June is now available on the Kiosk in the Narthex. Copies are free for anyone who would like one.

Flower Sign Up Sheet for 2025 Now Up

The sign-up sheet to provide flowers for the worship services in 2025 is on the bulletin board next to the Library. This is a good opportunity to remember a loved one, a special occasion or just because. To pay for the flowers use the special envelope that is also available on the bulletin board. They run \$20.

April Birthdays

15-Jill Disbro 16-Mike Benis
18-Isaac Marquez 19-April Smith
19-Damon Stewart 22-Grayson Ullman
23-Andrew Skoog 24-Michelle Clemence
24-Elaine Disbro 27-Margie Frazier
27-Dora Pinder 28-Edwina Bradley

The Wider Church

Bishop Dillahunt Sends Holy Week Blessings

*As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and share your burdens and tears.*

You saved me by giving your body and blood.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

(Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song - ELW #808, v. 3)

“On Ash Wednesday, I was asked, “What do you do for Lent?” Now, I turn the question to you: What spiritual practices do you engage in for Maundy Thursday?

- Sharing Holy Communion around a table after a meal
- Stripping the altar
- Foot washing
- Departing in silence

“And for Good Friday, what does your spiritual practice include?

- Reading the Passion narrative
- Draping the sanctuary in black
- Abstaining from music
- No preaching
- Leaving in silence

“As we approach the end of the Lenten journey and enter Holy Week, we reflect on Jesus embracing the role of a servant. He washed the feet of his disciples and gave them a new commandment: to love one another. He carried his cross to the crucifixion site, crying out and laying down his life for our salvation.

“Holy Week is filled with reminders that we receive that same call – to love, care for, and serve our neighbors – alongside the disciples. We are reminded of the cost and gift of salvation, where not even the depths of hell could limit the depths of God's love for humanity, the world, and all of creation.

“Our Synod Staff is holding you - rostered ministers, worship leaders, worship attendees, visitors, and everyone working behind the scenes – in prayer as you lead your communities through the holy events of this Holy Week.”

Holy Week Blessings,

+Bishop Dillahunt and the Southern Ohio Synod Staff

Take Your Own Pulse First

If you find yourself feeling anxious about all that is going on within your family, your communities, and the larger culture, you may find some creative ways to move beyond feeling stuck and overwhelmed by participating in the one-day conference sponsored by Healthy Congregations.

"Managing Self: Taking Your Own Pulse First" offers innovative ways to respond to the realities we find ourselves in that can help us see the relationships we're part of in ways we likely haven't before.

Managing Self: Take Your Own Pulse First

A daylong seminar using a Bowen Family Systems lens to engage thinking and responses to anxiety in our families, communities, and the culture.

Monday, May 19, 2025 - Hybrid Conference
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Eastern

Register at: healthycongregations.com/2025-annual-event



Dr. Kathleen Smith
Keynote Speaker



Considering Ways to Support Immigrants

Church Council has appointed **Julie Johnson** to lead a new ministry group to explore ways Redeemer can support those seeking to immigrate legally to or to remain legally in the United States. People on this ministry group include **Elaine Disbro, Kelley Frank, Emily Ott, Karen Rider** and **Dave Shull**.

The ELCA is a “Sanctuary Denomination.” As the ELCA website states: “In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.”

Among the tasks the ministry group has identified are the following:

- Keeping informed of the rapid changes affecting specific refugee and immigrant groups initiated by the Trump administration.
- Keeping informed of the legal actions and the status of those actions.
- Ensuring that those we know who are potentially affected have access to resources to help them.
- Learning about the various ways that Redeemer can consider how to be a sanctuary to immigrants and refugees.
- Learning what churches in our area are doing and have done to support immigrants and refugees.
- Exploring what the implications and factors would be in considering all of the options that we might be called upon to consider.
- Reporting our findings to the Congregation Council.

“One immediate way that individuals and Redeemer can walk along with immigrants at this critical time is by supporting CRIS Ohio. The Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) is a nonprofit agency in Central Ohio that provides a variety of services to refugees and immigrants. “The quickest way to support CRIS is directly through either their website at crisohio.org or by calling 614-235-5747. You can also donate by writing a check to Redeemer and note in the memo line CRIS. Donations through Redeemer are usually delayed by at least a month.

“Another way that Redeemer is walking alongside immigrants is to be of assistance to those who worship with us. Whether through transportation to church, providing a bulletin in their language, connecting them to needed services or helping with daily needs, we have opportunities to help.”

We ask for your prayers as we continue in this work.

Spring Gathering of Lutheran Women Set for May 4

A “Spring Gathering of Lutheran Women” will be held **Sunday, May 4** at St. Luke Lutheran Church (4456 Morse Rd., Gahanna). It begins at 1:30 p.m. with registration and the program begins at 2 p.m.

The speaker is **Jennifer Shaw**. There will also be singing and refreshments. Questions should be directed to either **Janet Dixon** at 614-475-2772 or at dixon201@earthlink.net or to **Nancy Labuhn** at 614-315-4771 or at nlabuhn@yahoo.com.

All women are welcome!

ELCA Issues Draft Statement on Child Protection/Maltreatment

The ELCA released a [draft social message](#) on child protection and maltreatment on March 21, ELCA Program Director of Theological Ethics, Education and Community Engagement Ryan Cumming and ELCA Director of Theological Ethics Roger Willer announced. This draft social message is in response to a request from the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly and addresses the church’s calling to protect and nurture children and youth, both within the church and within society more broadly. We are writing in hope that you will participate in the public comment period on this draft.

Folks are asked to read the draft social message and complete an online survey by visiting [HERE](#). Comments, affirmations, questions or concerns about the draft social message can also be emailed to the Theological Ethics team of the ELCA churchwide organization at draftsocialmessage@elca.org. The survey and public comment period will be open until **Monday, June 30**. A copy of the draft can also be found on the kiosk in the Narthex.

ELCA social teachings are developed through a process of communal deliberation across the church, and your feedback will be prayerfully considered as this draft is revised. Your perspective is important to this process, so we hope you will find time to review the draft and share your comments.

A revised, proposed social message will be sent to the ELCA Church Council this fall for possible adoption as the newest social teaching of our church. If adopted, this social message will serve as a guide for people of faith to think theologically and ethically about children and the church. It will also serve as an official policy document to guide the church’s public witness and to support policies at the congregational, synodical and churchwide level.

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

April 15 Praise God for the strength we draw from Scripture, from our siblings in Christ, from living in community and from the tireless work of the ever-present Spirit.

16 Pray to the Lord for comfort, strength and renewed faith when you feel broken and worn-out.

17 Maunday Thursday Today we end our observation of Lent and shift our attention to what God has done for the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, son of God and son of humankind. Give thanks for the gift of new life in Christ, a life wrapped in God's boundless grace.

18 Good Friday "Start being brave about everything. Drive out darkness and spread light. Don't look at your weaknesses. Realize instead that in Christ crucified you can do everything" (**Catherine of Siena**, 1347-1380). Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our faith so that, through us, God's love and mercy might shine brightly in the world.

19 Ask the Spirit for a faith that is certain and resilient, even when we don't fully understand or appreciate what God has done for humanity through Jesus Christ.

20 Easter Day Sing praise and thanksgiving to God! This is the day the Lord has made for us to gather as loved and forgiven children, celebrating our freedom from the bondage of sin and death.

21 When you reflect on who might need your presence, comfort and reassuring words of love and hope, who comes to mind? Include them in your prayers and reach out to them.

22 Give thanks and pray for directors for evangelical mission, who serve in partnership with ELCA churchwide ministries and synods, helping them to found "new start" ministries, renew congregations, nurture stewardship, and identify, develop and equip leaders for ministry.

23 Every day, Jesus walks with us, sharing good news and wisdom just as he did with Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus. Pray that the Spirit will help us express that good news and wisdom in our conversations with our neighbors.

24 "We are not fed by only doing one way of ministry. Instead it is about seeing the face of God in every person who walks through the door, about embracing the inherent dignity of every individual, regardless of their circumstances" (**Rev. Esther K. Sianipar**, shobistable.org). Pray for our neighbors who suffer hunger, lack reliable access to nutritious food and yearn for the support of caring communities, and thank God for our congregational, synodical and churchwide ministries that serve them without bias or judgment.

25 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Alaska Synod, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod and Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

26 Thank God for the spiritual nourishment we receive when we gather around the table to celebrate communion, and for the Triune God, who calls and equips us to do God's work in the world.

27 Like the apostle **Thomas**, we all experience moments of doubt and disbelief. Pray that God will be patient and forgiving with us, rekindling our trust in a Spirit that helps us when our faith weakens.

28 Thank God for volunteers who respond to the needs of the church and society by sharing their time, gifts and passion. Pray that we will extend to people of all ages the invitation to serve God.

The Community Beyond

May 6 Primary Election Sees Vote on Statewide Issue 2, Primaries for Local Offices

Early voting is now underway for the **Tuesday, May 6** Primary Election, both in-person at the local board of elections and via absentee ballot.

State Issue 2 renews a bond issue Ohio voters first approved in 1987. It has provided funding for more than 19,000 infrastructure projects and upgrades to local roads and bridges, wastewater treatment systems, water supply systems and solid waste disposal facilities across all 88 counties. In the current 10-year cycle, \$2.3 billion has been awarded to 1,084 local governments for 4,490 projects, according to the organization.

Candidates on the Franklin County May ballot are those running for seats on the Columbus City Council, Whitehall City Council, Hilliard City Council and the Columbus Board of Education. Eligibility to vote for these depends on an individual's address.

Voices of Freedom: Concert for Immigrant Justice Set for April 26

For 30 years Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), has been helping refugees and immigrants reach safety and stability, sustain self-sufficiency, and more. Join the Concert for the Cause at North Congregational United Church of Christ (2040 Henderson Rd.) for \$25 a ticket.

The concert features the sounds of **Jesse Powers** and Sirens. Doors open at 6 p.m. for a silent auction. Tickets available at the door or [online](#).

Berwick School Sponsors 5K Run/Walk

Berwick Alternative PreK-8 School is sponsoring a 5K Run and Walk on **Saturday, May 3**. All are welcome and registration is free. It begins at 10 a.m. at Berwick School (2655 Scottwood Rd.).

There will be medals for finishers as well as music and snacks at the school and community resources.

For additional information, email Mrs. Holbert at 1holbert@columbus.k12.oh.us. Registration information and the race map can be found [online](#).

Getting Ready for Worship

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 – 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 24:1-12

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

A Prayer for Peace

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church Vanatta in Newark.

+ For Redeemer community members Sarah, Marques, Rosalie, and Malcolm Highland.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns: Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin and their son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, Barbara Hairston and family, Dottie and Larry Bird, Eileen Welker, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Scott Steiner, Al Debelak.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister [8:30 a.m.]	Joss Dana
Assisting Minister [11:00 a.m.]	Mary Benis
Cantor [8:30 a.m.]	Wendy Stoica
Cantor [11:00 a.m.]	Heidi Sherer
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher [8:30 a.m.]	Zak Hinkle Moore
Usher [11:00 a.m.]	Mike Benis
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers [11:00 a.m.]	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Eileen Day
Hospitality [9:45 a.m.]	Easter Brunch

*The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]
Easter flowers are given by members and friends of Redeemer*

Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025 – 10 a.m. Lessons

Readings: Acts 10:34-41; Psalm 150; Luke 24.13-35

Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

- + For the people of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Delaware.
- + For Redeemer community member Kristi Hildebrand.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns: Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin and their son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, Barbara Hairston and family, Dottie and Larry Bird, Eileen Welker, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Scott Steiner, Al Debelak.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Karen Rider
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Ruth Murray
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Scott Steiner
Communion Prep	Kathleen Zwanziger, Eileen Day
Hospitality	

*The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]
Easter flowers are given by members and friends of Redeemer*

Upcoming Events at Redeemer

April 14-28, 2025

Monday 14	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
Tuesday 15	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
Wednesday 16	9:00 a.m.	Suzuki Music
Thursday 17		Maundy Thursday
	10:30 a.m.	Suzuki Music
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
Friday 18		Good Friday
	7:00 p.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Christ UMC
Saturday 19	10:00 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 20		Easter Sunday
	8:30 a.m.	In-Person Worship with Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Easter Brunch
	11:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
Monday 21	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki Music
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
Tuesday 22	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	6:30 p.m.	Congregation Council
	7:00 p.m.	Journaling Workshop
Wednesday 23	9:00 a.m.	Suzuki School
	5:00 p.m.	Zoom Immigration Task Force
	6:30 p.m.	Sister Act – Praying for Palestine
Thursday 24	10:30 a.m.	Suzuki School
Sunday 27	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 a.m.	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	2:00 p.m.	Suzuki Recital
	3:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts Troop 1143
Monday 28	3:00 p.m.	Suzuki School
	5:00 p.m.	TOPS

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all

Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community

Redeemer's Values: Inclusion, Compassion, Justice