



Ebensburg Presbyterian Church
4th Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EbensburgPresbyterianChurch>

Webpage: <https://ebgpsesby.org>

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

We gather to worship the Good Shepherd,
who lays down his life for his sheep.
We gather to worship Jesus Christ,
who calls us to lay down our lives for others.
Let us worship our Savior and our God.

*HYMN #466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*CALL TO CONFESSION: Jeremiah 29:11-13

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me, if you seek me with all your heart.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

O God, you have called us to love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. You have laid down your life for us and commanded us to lay down our lives for one another. Still, O Lord, we offer empty thoughts and prayers when the world needs our hands and our feet. Still, O Lord, we fail to share our lives with the world, hiding behind a myth of independence. Forgive us, we pray, and by your forgiveness, raise us to new life in you. Amen. [*silent confession*]

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (*responsively*) Ps 103:8-12

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger for-ever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, renewed and sent!

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

The Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
(Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.)

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURES:

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5–12 Pg. 887

SECOND READING: John 10:11-18 Pg. 872

Word of God, breath of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "WHEN GOD INTERVENES"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful. Therefore, with all creation we sing your praises, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Thank you, O God, for sending us your son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

Rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Gracious God pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ that we may be one with all who share his feast united in faith, and mission in every place as we pray the way our Lord Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HOLY COMMUNION:

The Breaking of Bread
Sharing the Cup

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*in unison*)

**Loving God,
we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN #379 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*BLESSING AND CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION:

May the Lord bless you and protect you.
May the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you. May the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you his peace.
In the name of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

PRAYER LIST

If you have any names you would like added to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920 or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Jim Brown
Len Dixon
Jamie
John Magyar
Jeff Vietmeier
Randy Wike
Todd Youngblood

Ashton Dixon
Donald Lewis
Anne Sedor Johnson
Curtis Mellott
Colleen Wagner
Chris Wolfe

Psalm 30

¹ Lord, I will exalt you and lift you high,
for you have lifted me up on high!
Over all my boasting, gloating enemies,
you made me to triumph.

² O Lord, my healing God,
I cried out for a miracle and you healed me!

³ You brought me back from the brink of death,
from the depths below.
Now here I am, alive and well, fully restored!

⁴ O sing and make melody, you steadfast lovers of God.
Give thanks to him every time you reflect on his holiness!

⁵ I've learned that his anger lasts for a moment,
but his loving favor lasts a lifetime!^[a]
We may weep through the night,
but at daybreak it will turn into shouts of ecstatic joy.

6–7 I remember boasting, "I've got it made!
Nothing can stop me now!
I'm God's favored one; he's made me steady as a mountain!"
But then suddenly, you hid your face from me.
I was panic-stricken and became depressed.

⁸ Still I cried out to you, Lord God. I shouted out for mercy, saying,
⁹ "What would you gain in my death,
if I were to go down to the depths of darkness?
Will a grave sing your song?
How could death's dust declare your faithfulness?"

¹⁰ So hear me now, Lord; show me your famous mercy.
O God, be my Savior and rescue me!

¹¹ Then he broke through and transformed all my wailing
into a whirling dance of ecstatic praise!
He has torn the veil and lifted from me
the sad heaviness of mourning.
He wrapped me in the glory-garments of gladness.

¹² How could I be silent when it's time to praise you?
Now my heart sings out, bursting with joy—
a bliss inside that keeps me singing,
"I can never thank you enough!"

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 466

AZMON CM

Charles Wesley, 1738; alt.

Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828

Arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing My dear Re-deem-er's praise,
2. Je - sus, the name that charms our fears, That bids our sor - rows cease;
3. Christ breaks the power of reign - ing sin, And sets the pris - oner free;
4. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As - sist me to pro - claim,

The glo - ries of my God and King, The tri-umphs of God's grace!
'Tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.
Christ's blood can make the sin - ful clean, Christ's blood a - vailed for me.
To spread through all the earth a - broad The hon - ors of Thy name.

379 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK LM with refrain

Edward Mote, c. 1834

William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863

1. My hope is built on noth-ing less Than Je - sus' blood and
 2. When dark-ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood Sup - port me in the
 4. When He shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, But whol-ly
 chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm-y gale, My an-chor
 whelm-ing flood; When all a-round my soul gives way, He then is
 Him be found, Dressed in His righ - teous - ness a - lone, Fault - less to

Refrain

lean on Je - sus' name.
 holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; All
 all my hope and stay.
 stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

Alternate tune: MELITA, 562