



CHRIST CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

247 South Market Street, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

Founded 1743



**A Creation Justice Church
An Open and Affirming (ONA) Congregation**



**CHRIST CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

April 26, 2026

WORSHIP 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Justin McLaughlin, pianist

Welcome, Announcements

Call to Worship, Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

“Prayer of Meditation”

Mary McDonald

Justin McLaughlin, pianist

PRAISING *(Please rise whether in body or in spirit.)*

Opening Words *(unison)*

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

Hymn

“My Shepherd is the Living God”

No. 247

Invocation

Response

“God Restores My Soul” (response only, sing twice)

pg. 633

(Please be seated.)

LISTENING

Children’s Moment (10:30)

Chancel Choir (10:30)

“Rise Up, O Children of God”

Patterson

¹⁹ For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ **When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.** ⁵ **They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.**" ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

"Listen to the Voice"

"When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers."

AFFIRMING

Joys and Concerns

May the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Morning Prayers and the Lord’s Prayer *(unison, on screen)*

SHARING

Offering our Gifts, Tithes, and Other Offerings

Offertory

“Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”

arr. John Carter

Justin McLaughlin, organist

(Please rise whether in body or in spirit for the remainder of worship.)

Response

“We Love Your Realm, O God” (vs. 2 only)

No. 312

Prayer of Dedication

RESPONDING

Hymn

“O Come to Me, You Weary”

No. 484

Blessing

Postlude

“Be Thou My Vision”

arr. Victor Labenske

End of Worship—Beginning of Service



Our Church in Action

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH! If this is your first time to Christ Church, please fill out a “Connection” card found at the entrances to the sanctuary or pew racks, and put it in the box. Or visit <https://2hac.page.link/mdHS>. Please visit our website: www.etonnucc.org for more information. Welcome!!

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Kim Wolgemuth in loving memory of Scott Wolgemuth.

MAY CONSISTORY MEETING CHANGED: The May Consistory meeting date/time is May 21st at 7:30 PM. All Participating Members are welcome at Consistory meetings.

WELCOME TO ROXANNE BYBEL, our new Office Administrator! Roxanne has extensive office administrator experience at First Energy Corp., Independence Blue Cross, Three Mile Island, among others business organizations. As a Elizabethtown College student and resident, Roxanne is excited to meet new people and get acquainted with old friends as she gets started. Her new email address is RoxanneBybel@etownucc.org. Welcome Roxanne!

JOHN AND LYNN MARSH MEMORIAL SERVICE is set for Saturday, May 2nd. Visitation is at 2 PM and the worship service is at 3:30 PM. Our church family is welcome. Everyone is encouraged to wear blue and green and other earth colors honoring Lynn and John's favorite colors.

MUSIC CELEBRATION SUNDAY—May 3rd at 10:30 AM our several choirs and ensembles are leading us in worship. Their music offerings enrich our Sunday worship services, so we celebrate with them as they end their program year. There is only one worship service at 10:30 AM on May 3rd. Faith Formation at 9 AM and 10 AM refreshments as we Snack n Chat in the Cookie Room continue as usual.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION is set for Sunday, May 3rd after worship in the Social Room downstairs. A light lunch will be served, and childcare provided, if needed. Attending the orientation does not obligate you to join, but it's a good way to do that. And if you're part of our online community, please send us an email that you're interested in being a Participating Member of our church while worshipping with us online. Let Roxanne in the Church Office know.

APRIL OUTREACH FOCUS—THREADS and TREADS. There were 37 requests from the Social Worker at the Elizabethtown School District. As of the end of February, we purchased \$4,704.00 worth of coats, hats, shoes, scarfs, sweaters, sweatpants, underwear, boots, toiletries and much more for disadvantaged students. Your gifts make that happen.

BINGO AT OUR HOME OF HOPE! *Calling all kids and youth!* Today, we will visit Our Home of Hope. Lunch is offered to participants at 11:45 AM. We leave the church at 12:30 PM. and return to the church by 3 PM. Youth will call bingo games, hand out prizes and assist with residents as needed. Please sign up on the Mission Team board TODAY! Please see Grace Wells and Ariana Wheeler for more info.

MEMBERS REQUESTING PRAYERS:

- † **Gordy Berrier** is home recovering from heart and kidney issues
- † **Jo Brandt's sister, Shannon**, battling breast cancer
- † **Jo Brandt's, nephew Seanan** recovering from several facial surgeries
- † **Virginia Groff** recovering from ankle replacement surgery
- † **Walt Knight and family**, upon the death of Walt's grandfather, Walter Jr.
- † **Justin McLaughlin's mother Andrea** broke her ankle and likely needs surgery
- † **The Marsh family** as they prepare to celebrate John and Lynn Marsh's lives, May 2.
- † **Denise Santiago and family**, upon the death of Denise's mother.

WITTLE FARM WORKDAY is Saturday May 2 from 9-12. Please join us! Sign up on the Mission Team Bulletin Board so they can plan for a delicious picnic lunch at noon.

COMPOST: Sunday, April 26 will be our first bucket distribution for the 2026 Compost Program. Composting directions and information will be available, and buckets will be exchanged every other Sunday through November 8.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR NURSERY after May 10. Our college kids will mostly have gone home. Please sign up or let the church office know if you can help. And in May going pretty much through the summer, we will need volunteers helping with our nursery.

APPRECIATIONS FOR APRIL 26th

Lay Leaders: 9:00 Tom Downing, 10:30 Ann Dinsmore
Acolyte: 9:00 Connor Templin, 10:30 Lucy Downing
Ushers: 9:00 Ryan Best and Brooke Bensinger
10:30 Rob Best, Ken and Mary Smeltz
Nursery: Izzi Holden and Abby Hellwig

APPRECIATION FOR MAY 3rd

Lay Leader: 10:30 Bob Sorozon
Acolyte: 9:00 Collie Heslop, 10:30 Lucy Downing
Ushers: 9:00 Dave Heisey, 10:30 Sue Eurich
Nursery: Maria Mason and Izzi Holden
Musicians: All Musicians, Choirs and Directors

Sound/Video Tech: Sound Media Team: Tom Downing, Chris Eurich, Dale Mease,
Wes Runnels, Garrett Runnels

Cover art: free to share and use, [shepherd-sheep1.jpg \(800x400\)](#), retrieved April 22, 2026

April Cookie Time: Sponsored by Outreach Committee

May Cookie Time: Sponsored by SHARE

This Week At A Glance

Sunday 4/26

Worship and Faith Formation	9:00 AM
Cookie Time	10:00 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
PRAISE!	12:00 PM
Our Home of Hope Trip	12:30 PM

Monday 4/27

Boy Scouts	7:00 PM
Green Team (zoom meeting)	7:00 PM

Tuesday 4/28

Carillon Choir	7:00 PM
Contemporary Christian Conversation	8:00 PM

Wednesday 4/29

IT Meeting	9:00 AM
------------	---------

Wednesday 4/29 (cont'd)

Children Choir	6:00 PM
Credo Choir	7:00 PM
Chancel Choir	7:30 PM

Thursday 4/30

<i>Collective Spirit</i>	7:00 PM
--------------------------	---------

Saturday 5/2

Wittel Farm Workday	9:00 AM
Marsh Visitation	2:00 PM
Marsh Memorial Service	3:30 PM

Sunday 5/3

Faith Formation & Rehearsal	9:00 AM
Cookie Time	10:00 AM
Worship, Music Celebration	10:30 AM

MINISTERS: All the Participating Members of the Congregation
Our Church Staff

Lead Pastor Rev. Dr. Galen E. Russell, III
Associate Pastor
Director of Music Conner Ulrich
Organist Justin McLaughlin
Director of Carillon Choir Ruthann Ressler
Director of Youth Choirs Ali Spayd
Director of *CollectiveSpirit* Jan Stouffer
Office Administrator Roxanne Bybel
Treasurer Cris Dinsmore
Facility Manager John Lepore
Church Phone: 717-367-1208 **Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. (9 am - noon & 1-5 pm)**
Website: www.etownucc.org **Email: christchurch@etownucc.org**
Christ Church Network: Christ Church Office-guest PW: TrustinGod1208