

NEW HEMPSTEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rev. Angela Maddalone
Pastor

Lois Anderson
Music Director

**SERVICE OF THE RESURRECTION
EASTER**

April 20, 2025

*Congregation, please stand when able.

Bold type indicates congregational response

TIME FOR PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

10:55-11:00 AM

PRELUDE “*Alleluia*” Mozart/ Easter hymns/ “Thine Be the Glory” Handel arr. Feitosa

GREETING

Lay Leader

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

“The Resurrection”

Traditional Irish

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

Lay Leader

People of God, we have known grief.

We have known loss. We have known the long road, tired and winding.

We have whispered prayers on bended knees. We have stared at the sky, empty of stars. But today—

Today we know hope.

Today we know life.

Today we know the sound of Alleluias.

Today we know that death does not have the last word.

Today we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

It is Easter. May hope find you.

And may you know, deep in your bones,

that today is a new day for Christ is risen!

Alleluia, He is risen indeed. Let us praise the Risen Lord!

***OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

Resurrecting God, we meet you in the empty tomb where our griefs and joys, despairs and hopes intermingle. Through our prayers and praise this Easter day, open our hearts to remember that the power of love and life will overcome every death-dealing force, no matter how pervasive or persuasive. In this troubling and joyful time, dazzle us with good news, Holy Rising Up One, in whose path we follow and name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

#232

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

The prayer of confession can feel like a fresh page allowing us to start again.

When we move closer to God, we are always met with grace, mercy, and abundant love. And my friends, that is joyful. That feels like Easter, doesn't it?

So let us pray together the prayer of confession.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

Forgive us, God, when we hear the good news and we refuse to believe it.

Forgive us, God, when grief and fear crowd out any room in our hearts for hope.

Forgive us, God, when we dismiss the stories of others and minimize the voices of our neighbors. In a world that clings to false truth, and promotes fear as a weapon to deceive and control, show us how to hold onto hope. Show us how to live courageously in truth. Show us how to run toward you with resurrection faith. Amen.

SILENT MEDITATION

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God's grace exists for us when we are hopeful and when we are filled with despair,
when we're shouting and when we're silent,
when we're full of faith and when we're full of fear.
God's grace exists for us on the best days, the worst days,
and every day in between.
Thanks be to God for this good news! Through Christ
we are forgiven and free to begin again. Alleluia! Amen.

***SUNG RESPONSE:** *"Alleluia"*

Please be seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In Unison)

Lay Leader

Living Christ, you have shown us this day how Easter sings a song of hope, new life and steadfast, indestructible love. Speak to us, in these sacred and ancient words, through the power of the Holy Spirit, as only you can. Gratefully we pray, amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9 (pgs. 605-606)

Lay Leader

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"That Easter Day"
NHPC Choir

arr. Burton Bumgarner

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Rev. Angela Maddalone

SECOND READING

Luke 24:1-12. (pgs. 919-920)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Why Seek the Living Among the Dead?

Rev. Angela Maddalone

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (In Unison)**

We believe in God: who has created and is creating; who has come in the true human, Jesus, to reconcile and make new; who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit. We trust God.
God calls us to be in the church: to celebrate God's presence; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Minister: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
People: And also with you.

***HYMN**

"Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing"

#239

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Lois Simmons

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Give thanks to God for God is good. Let us gratefully give of our offerings to the glory of God and in praise of Christ's resurrecting ministry.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

George Job Elvey, arr. Feitosa

PRAYER CARDS

Please fill out and place your Prayer Card in the offering plate

***DOXOLOGY**

#606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of the empty tomb, your grace astounds us, your generosity fills us to overflowing. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ's spirit. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(using "sins" and "those who sin against us")

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

We lift up our hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God, on this joyful Easter Day we open our hearts to you. We have seen the power of your love roll away the stone from Jesus' grave. We have heard his friends shout with joy once they heard his voice again. And so we join our voices with all God's creatures high and low with all Jesus' friends from long ago, and here and now, to sing your praises:

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, hosanna in the highest.

Receive our joyful praise today, Lord Jesus. You rose from the dead to show us that there are new possibilities for us and our lives too. Even when we're sad or discouraged and forget your love, you don't turn away from us. You invite us to share this meal with you so that we may taste your love and feel it through and through. Lord Jesus, on this happy Easter Day, we raise our voices to sing our joy out loud as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Holy Spirit, you make new life rise in us and around us. Breathe upon us now and upon this bread and wine so we can taste the love of Christ Jesus. As this bread and wine become a part of us, Lord Jesus, make us a part of you and your family everywhere. Help us to trust that all things will work together for good, through the power of God's love that raised you from death, that power of the love we share today in your name. Amen.

Together let us prayer in the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who are 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *"Now the Green Blade Rises"* Easter hymn

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Christ is Alive" (Verses 1-4)* # 246

***BENEDICTION (Responsively)**

May God bless us where we are now, and when we journey on to where we are called to be:
a place that will change us, and where we can make a difference, where we may be a sign of God's love as we live out the Easter story. Amen, Alleluia!

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Exult, Ye Heavens”

Steven Warner

POSTLUDE

“The Day of Resurrection”

arr. Feitosa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME VISITORS

We welcome all visitors. We are glad you were able to be with us today and look forward to seeing you again.

MAILING LIST

If you would like to be on our mailing or phone list please write your name, address, e-mail and/or phone number on a Welcome Card, located in the pew.

Lay Leader: Pauline Mattis

We thank our musicians today:

Horn quartet: Barbara Zacheis, Jane Craig Sebok, Levon Hennessy, Ruby Friedman

Choir members for today's service: Soprano: Pam Fink, Nancy Jacobs, Sue Rentz, Susan Truss Alto:

Karen Martin, Jane Craig Sebok Tenor: Barbara Zacheis, Chester Martin*, Bob Philhower Bass: Mark Zacheis *soloist

If you ordered flowering plants for Easter, you may pick them up at the conclusion this service. Look for your name taped to the pot.

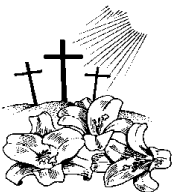
After worship today we will have our annual Egg Hunt for the children.

SAVE THESE DATES – Our church is participating in Keep Rockland Beautiful Day again this year, on May 3, 2025 from 9-noon. Open to our church family and community members, we will be picking up trash on the New Hempstead Road between Route 45 and the Palisades Parkway entrance, and on Old Schoolhouse Road. Wear work clothes and work gloves. We will provide reflective vests, T-shirts, grabbers, plastic bags, water and snacks. And look for Kirby to win a fabulous prize. You must register at keeprocklandbeautiful.org Mark Zacheis will be helping with registrations during coffee hours.

Can't make it to church? Join us via Livestream on YouTube! Use the link below or just search for “New Hempstead Presbyterian Church”

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1uJu-RJ5343dvTGRE7Nt5A>

To give online, click on www.nhpchurch.org or scan the QR code:



All of us at New Hempstead Church wish you a joyous and blessed Easter.