

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024, 10:00am



Photo taken by Rev. Elizabeth Testa of the Magdala in the Holy Land



GREENVILLE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Welcome to Greenville Community Church! We're glad you've joined us. We are an inclusive family of faith that celebrates diversity, curiosity, service and hospitality.

Today is the fourth Sunday after Easter. The liturgical color for today is white, symbolizing the brightness of Christ and the dawn of a new day.

Men's and women's restrooms are located downstairs. They can be accessed by the stairs in the narthex (the entryway in the back of the church).

An all-gender accessible restroom is located in the educational/administrative wing near Hessler Hall. Those who are not comfortable with stairs may enter this part of the building through the office entrance on the front driveway facing Ardsley Rd.

If you are visiting with us, we extend a special greeting to you. Please fill out the visitor form in the narthex so we can get to know you. Join us for coffee after worship in Hessler Hall.

Please note our services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel, which can be accessed through our website homepage, www.greenvillechurch.org. Each service is archived, so you can watch them at your leisure.



Thank you for your gifts and offerings. Every gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference in our ability to share God's love with those around us. Offering envelopes are available in the pew racks; you may also donate electronically through the QR code on the left. NOTE: You may join our church Wifi network "Sanctuary" with the password: 4churchonly

ORDER OF SERVICE

*As the prelude begins, we invite you to enter a time of quiet reflection to prepare for worship.
Please silence all electronic devices.*

PRELUDE Amazing Grace John Newton

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

When we walk along the roads of life:

Christ is there among us.

When our route leads to the bustling city:

Christ is there among us.

When we venture down a country path:

Christ is there among us.

Alone or with the crowds, with family, friend or stranger:

Christ is there among us. Let us worship God!

*HYMN #457 *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* (Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual Songs)

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

**we confess that even as we celebrate the resurrection,
we neglect your commandment to love one another.**

**We pass by those in need, fail to care for your creation,
and distract ourselves with selfish pursuits.**

Forgive us for our shortcomings.

Renew our hearts and minds, and make us more like Christ—

more compassionate, more forgiving, more loving, more eager to serve.

In the name of the Risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession and prayer.)

PETITION #574 **“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”** *Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual Songs*
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news...

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE:

HYMN #229

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies," v. 1

Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual Songs

From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land and tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You are God's precious child. God loves you!

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 118:1-2, 18-24

God, we thank you for your Word.

The story of your love.

ANTHEM

Adagio

by Albinoni/Lara Fabian

I don't know where to find you

I don't know how to reach you

I hear your voice in the wind

I feel you under my skin

Within my heart and my soul

I wait for you

Adagio

All of these nights without you

All of my dreams surround you

I see and I touch your face

I fall into your embrace

When the time is right I know

You'll be in my arms

Adagio

I close my eyes and I find a way

No need for me to pray

I've walked so far

I've fought so hard
Nothing more to explain
I know all that remains
Is a piano that plays

If you know where to find me
If you know how to reach me
Before this light fades away
Before I run out of faith
Be the only man to say
That you'll hear my heart
That you'll give your life
Forever you'll stay

Don't let this light fade away
No, no, no, no, no, no
Don't let me run out of faith
Be the only man to say
That you believe
Make me believe
You won't let go
Adagio

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 20:11-18

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Tower of Strength”

Rev. Elizabeth Testa

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.**

OFFERING:

How Great Thou Art

Carl Boberg

Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, you heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, giver of all good things, accept these gifts and with them
our lives, to be used in your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN #267

Will You Come and Follow Me

(Sing! A New Creation)

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL

RESPONSE #106 **“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” v. 1**

Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual Songs

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Please be seated until the conclusion of the postlude.

Use this time for quiet contemplation.

POSTLUDE

Here's To Life

by Molinari/Butler

*Following worship, join us for coffee hour downstairs in Hessler Hall.
We are grateful to Helen Yun and Oliver Yun Glastetter for preparing refreshments today.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Elizabeth Testa
David Shenton, *piano & organ*
Erin Shields, soprano
Joanne Fernandez-McDermott and Dotti Han, *ushers*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Nicola Powell, daughter of Sonia Powell, recovering from a heart attack; **George McKinnis** on the loss of his wife, Marlene; **a mother and her son** as he faces various challenges; dealing with health challenges; **Keith Clonan**, godson of Ellen Ryan, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; **Lydia Williams**, friend of Dyan Atkins, grieving the loss of her cousin; **Rochford**, friend of Sharon; **Kevin Backles**, friend of Yasmin Thomas, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer; **Denise Colon**, niece of Rosa Morett, fighting cancer; **Eliza Delacruz**, fighting cancer; **Steven Sathuluri**, nephew of Mary Perikala; **Debbie**, sister of Teresa Krajco, battling stage 4 cancer; **Beth Gitau**; **Lee Lajoi**; **Bruce Purse**; **Lily Woo**, waiting for another kidney; **Karen Quinn**; **Fred Brandi**; **Cayden 12**, grandson of Sharon Jacquet, diagnosed with osteosarcoma.

Prayer is an important part of this faith community. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please contact Pastor Sam. Names can be added to the public prayer list or be held in confidence. Names will be listed in the bulletin for two months, unless requested otherwise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer for Mt. Vernon Soup Kitchen— On **Sunday May 5th**, the teens will have a short meeting after worship, following by baking **cookies** to give to the **Mt Vernon Soup Kitchen. Mon., May 6**. Prepare and/or help serve meals with our friends at First Reformed Church of Mt. Vernon. Food may be dropped off at the church following worship on May 5, or by 2:00pm on May 6. We will meet at the church in Mt. Vernon at 3:30pm: 135 S. 6th Ave., Mt. Vernon. To RSVP, visit www.signupgenius.com, click on the magnifying glass icon, and search for the signup by entering sclover@greenvillechurch.org. You should see “Mount Vernon Soup Kitchen.” Click to reserve your spot!

Lecture: Welcoming and Supporting New Refugees in Our Community—*Mon., May 13, 2:00pm*, Church of St. James the Less, 10 Church La., Scarsdale. The Scarsdale-Hartsdale Women’s Interfaith Council are hosting this lecture with Kathie O’Callaghn of the nonprofit Hearts & Homes for Refugees. All welcome; light refreshments follow. For info, contact Ruth Boser (ruthboser@gmail.com; 914-671-0666) or Alison Rose (aprilalisonrose@gmail.com; 914-723-7617).

Calling all Golfers or Golfer Wannabes David Shenton, Andrew Onslow, and Richard Pink are organizing a GCC Fellowship Golf Outing. For planning and reservation purposes we need to know how many have an interest. This outing will be open to GCC members and friends, your friends, and to parents of the Greenville Church Nursery School. We plan to hold the outing at Maple Moor Golf Course, 1128 North Street, White Plains on Monday June 3rd. It will be a morning outing followed by a barbeque luncheon on the patio (weather permitting). The fees for golf, carts, and lunch is expected to be a very reasonable \$100 per person. If interested, please contact one of us by April 30th.

David.....email: das_shenton@yahoo.com; text: 917-647-7288

Andrew...email: andrew.c.onslow@gmail.com; text: 929-429-0156

Richard...email: richardpink@verizon.net; text : 917-251-7465

Clothing Donation Shed. We are accepting clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, towels, sheets, pillowcases, curtains and stuffed animals for distribution to communities in need. If would like to donate these items, please place items in good condition in bags, and drop them in the shed in the back parking lot. All donations are tax deductible.

We are accepting donations for the food pantry. If you have spare canned goods or boxes of cereal, consider donating them to our partner, the Ecumenical Emergency Food Pantry of White Plains. A basket is located in the Narthex; food will be transported from GCC regularly.

Facebook and Instagram Pages. Have you checked out our Facebook and Instagram pages? We regularly post photos, thoughts and information about upcoming events. Please take a look and “like” and “follow” us!



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Rev. Samuel T. Clover, *Senior Minister*
David A. Shenton, *Director of Music*
Liz Follen, *Church Administrator*
Kristen O'Leary, *Faith Formation Coordinator*
Irma Flores-Medina, *Buildings and Grounds Overseer*

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Dyan Atkins – Chair, Fellowship Committee
Gary Beane – Chair, Education Committee
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Yasmin Thomas

Elders

Karie Brown – Chair, Mission Committee
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