



PAXTON

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Stories for the Road
April 19, 2026 | 10:30 AM

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"Sunset to Sunrise"
"That Easter Day with Joy was Bright"
"Fairest Lord Jesus"

-arr. G. Martin
-arr. G. Lachenauer
-arr. R. Lau

WORSHIP PREPARATION

**In preparing for our worship together please quiet yourself
and allow God's Spirit to ready your heart, mind, and soul.**

During this time, we invite you to sign the **guest book**, pass it down your row and back again and note friends and guests worshipping next to you. Please also complete a **prayer request card** at this time if you have a joy or concern for which you would like special prayers during the service. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GREETINGS AND NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Rich Lengler and Diana Robertson

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

-arr. A.L. Page

THE WORD GATHERS US

* CALL TO WORSHIP (*adapted from liturgy written by Ruth C. Duck*)

The disciples met the risen Christ as they went about their daily tasks—eating, fishing, preparing a meal.

We have gathered because we too want to know the presence of Jesus among us.

We gather here to be fed by him through the Word of life.

We will return to the world, seeking to know and to make known his presence there.

Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Spirit of life, in whom we live and move and have our being.

Amen.

* HYMN – 248

"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

* OPENING PRAYER (*written by Ruth C. Duck*)

We thank you, O God, that you have given us new life and freedom in Jesus Christ. Our faith and our hope are in you. Since our earthly lives pass like the flowers of the field, which bloom today and fade tomorrow, we want to be rooted securely in your eternal love. Be known to us as we live from day to day, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS (*adapted from a prayer from Wheadon United Methodist Church, Evanston, Ill.*)

O God, we confess our lack of faith. Although we have called you the God of hope, we often feel lost, cynical, without hope. We are reluctant to leave the tomb of our own ignorance and fear to claim the promise. We confess that our weaknesses and insensitivities stand in the way of new life in our world. We know that the world is full of suffering. Our brothers and sisters are nailed to crosses of poverty and injustice. People close enough to touch are sealed in tombs of

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.

CCLI#2707192

Directing our worship today: Preacher, Pastor Margaret Poteet; Worship Assistant, Cindy Mory, Conversation with Our Children, Michelle Sheppard, Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce; Director of Youth Music, Andrew Vinton

Anthem

Open My Eyes

arranged by Gilbert M. Martin

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of the truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp, and set me free. Silently I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see; open my eyes, illumine me, spirit divine!
Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth sendest clear; and while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently not I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see; open my ears, illumine me, spirit divine!
Open my mouth, and let me hear gladly warm truth everywhere; open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently no I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see; open my heart, illumine me, spirit divine!
Amen.

PRAYER SQUARE

Please keep the following church members and friends in your prayers.

Members

Rick Bazdar, Jim Brillinger, Brenda and Ron Brinkley, Fran Gilchrist, Shirley Grunden, Nancy Hutchison, Jo Jacoby, Penny Knight, Rich Lengler, Nedra Maxwell, Joanne Miller, Donna Powers, Elsie Williams, Dave Wion, Kathie Zimmerman

Friends

David Altland, Atkins Family, Betty Conte, Rev. John Green, Dr. and Mrs. Kent Groff, Kris Heimberger, Donna Hitz, Margaret Hoyt, Natalie Jerkovick, Kevin Keck, Mary Langley, Carol Poteet, Scooter Ziebell

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Square please contact Janice at 717-418-1526 or momjakh@aol.com

NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our 48th wedding anniversary by Anita and Don Laughery.

MENTALISM WITH A TWIST Be prepared to be amazed and entertained by our own John E. Fortino with feats of mental gymnastics. Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 4:00. Cookies will be provided.

OGHS FISH BANKS If you have not had the chance to turn in your OGHs Fish Bank, please plan to do so by April 19. Banks can be placed in offering plates or the Church Office.

COINS FOR CARING April's Coins for Caring will be going towards One Great Hour of Sharing.

THIRD GRADE BIBLES On April 19, third graders at Paxton receive new bibles. Would you help make this even more special by highlighting your favorite verse in their bibles? Bibles and instructions can be found on a table in the Great Room.

FAITHFUL FRIEND ADOPTION Vacation Bible School is July 13-16 and this year's theme, "Faithful Friends; Learning From God's Creatures" is going to be amazing! We will be studying God's word and learning about animals. Every evening we will have live animal presentations - Zoo America, Bunny Bonanza, Batz Farm and our own Paxton pets. To offset the cost of these groups, we are holding an Adopt A Friend fundraiser. Information can be found on the bulletin board outside the office.

50 YEAR/NEW MEMBER DINNER Invitations were sent for the 50 year/new member dinner on May 3, 2026. If you believe you should have received an invitation and did not, please call or email the church office. Please remember you may bring a guest with you.

THE NEXT COMMUNITY CLOTHING DRIVE IS COMING. PLEASE DROP OFF ALL CLOTHING BY NOON ON April 20th. All men's, women's, and children's clothes for spring are needed including pants, shirts, jackets, coats, shoes, underwear, socks, and dresses. Additionally, sheets, towels, and washcloths can be used. Please drop off the clothing at Norm Daniels' house (500 Bonnymead Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111). Questions? Call or text Norm at 717-712-7494.

WHEN DID PAXTON START? Like much from this early time, records have been lost over the years. While there is some tradition that the foundation of our congregation started with settlers in this area worshiping in their homes around 1716, certainly, by the early 1720's a group of people that became the basis of Paxton Church were meeting for worship. Rev. James Anderson became our first supply minister in 1726 preaching every fifth Sabbath. If that date is accurate (there is some disagreement), then this year marks the 300th anniversary of our congregation. Future milestones will be noted from now until 2040 in our monthly newsletter.

BIRTHDAY OFFERING Launched in 1922 to honor the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Birthday Offering is an annual tradition for givers and receivers around the world. Over the last 103 years, grants funded by Presbyterian Women have impacted the ministries of more than 200 organizations. Your gifts make a difference: please give to the PW Birthday Offering today! Yellow Birthday offering envelopes will be in the gathering room and in the pew racks. Make your checks payable to PW of Paxton. Place in the PW mailbox or in the offering plate.

SAVE THE DATE June 7 is the Deacon's Baseball outing. Check outside the office for a ticket form!



Join us for an incredible week full of God's critters, bible lessons, singing, dancing, crafts, games and much more!

We will learn about God's love and care in every paw, whisker, feather and fin. From the smallest sparrow to the strongest lion - God loves and cares for all.

Registration & volunteer opportunities coming soon!



Visiting Animals Include:

Various animals from Zoo America
Bunnies from all over the world by
Bunny Bonanza
Goats, mini horses and mini cows from
Batz Farm
Paxton pets - dogs, cats and more

April 19 - 26

Sunday, April 19	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room
Monday, April 20	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Stewardship	Library
	6:00PM	Voices of the Valley	
Tuesday, April 21	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
Wednesday, April 22	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Deacons	Room 101
Thursday, April 23	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:15 PM	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
	6:30 PM	Paxtang Lions	Fellowship Hall
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir	Sanctuary
Friday, April 24	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, April 25	4:00 PM	Mentalism with a Twist	Great Room
Sunday, April 26	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public

9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday through Friday

If you need to visit the office or building at another time, please call the office.

Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor	x105	Margaret Poteet	pastor@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Faith Formation	x104	Michelle Sheppard	michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Music		Susan Beckley	
Organist		Jeanne Bruce	
Director of Youth Music		Andrew Vinton	
Office Administrator	x101	Abby Spencer	office@paxtonchurch.org
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	treasurer@paxtonchurch.org
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org
Property Manager		Jerry Bingaman	propertymgr@paxtonchurch.org
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

Board of Deacons

Sally Appleby '28* Jim Bruce '26 Linette Burd '26, Moderator Judy Frankford '27 Cheryl Holtzman '26 Rich Lengler '28*	Sue McLain '26 Merideth Staudenmaier '28*, Secretary Diana Robertson '28*, Financial Liaison Deb Trephan '27 Brenda Vinton '27 Bev Ziebell '27
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Stephen Ministry

Stephen Leaders Stephen Ministers	Gary Myers Karen Cirillo Cheryl Holtzman Annette Kilpatrick Steve Miller	Jane Sanford Karen Herrold Janice Hutchison Nancy Lengler Kathy Woodbridge
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For a confidential referral please contact a Stephen Leader.

Session *Chair

Margaret Poteet Kitti Taylor Nancy Bingaman '28* Cindy Cavanaugh '28* Nancy Lengler '26* Judy Schmidt '27* Gary Myers '26* Jay Kealey '26* Nino Giambrore '27* Craig Staudenmaier '28* Sharon Webb '26* Anita Laughery '27*	Moderator Clerk of Session Christian Education Evangelism and Outreach Budget and Finance Mission Nominating Personnel Property Management Stewardship Technology Worship and Music
Gary Myers Bob Frank '28 Geoffrey Vinton '27* Bob Frank	

At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, mental or physical ability, or religious background.



Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

252 Day of Arising

Capo 1: (Esus) (E) (B) (E)
 Fsus F C F



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way, un - known com -
 2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing, blind - ed by
 3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken. This is Christ's
 4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney, bread of com -

(Amaj7) (F#m7) (B7) (Esus) (E)
 Bbmaj7 Gm7 C7 Fsus F



pan - ion walks with his own. When they in - vite him,
 sad - ness, slow - ness of heart, yet Christ walks with us,
 prom - ise, this is Christ's sign: when the church gath - ers,
 pas - sion, o - pen our eyes. Grant us your vi - sion,

(B) (E) (Amaj7) (B7) (E)
 C F Bbmaj7 C7 F



as fades the first day, and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
 ev - er a - wait - ing our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
 when bread is bro - ken, there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.
 set all hearts burn - ing that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Christ Be Beside Me

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1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -
2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on



hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that



low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.