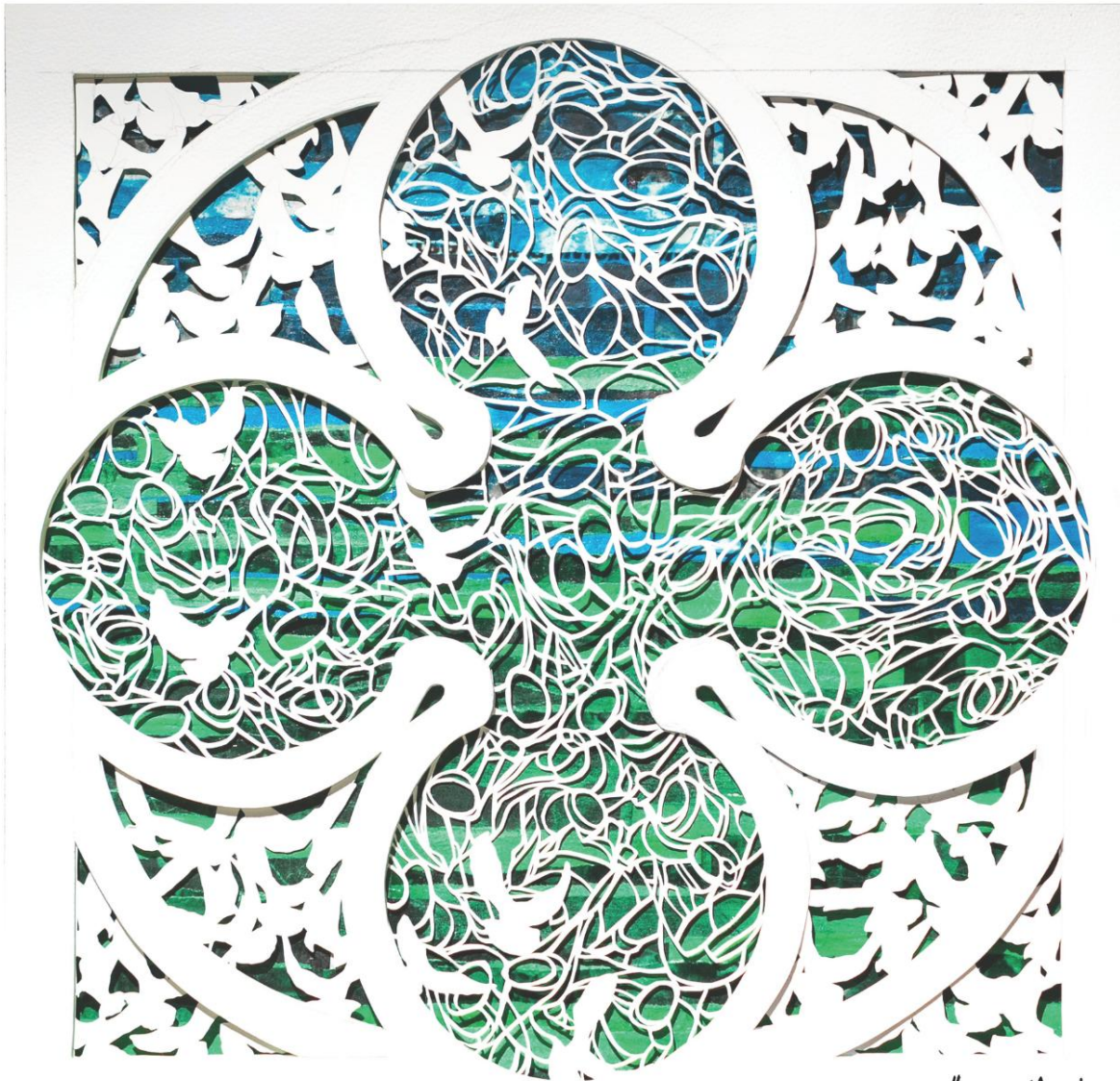




PAXTON

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Hannah Garrity

Meet Me in Galilee by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC

the good news is,
alive in the world

April 5, 2026 | 10:30AM

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"
"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"
"The Strife is O'er"

-arr. D. Paxton
-arr. J. Innes
-arr. L. Smith

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!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

"Morning Has Broken"

-arr. L. Shackley

THE WORD GATHERS US

EASTER PROCLAMATION AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!
Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!
The light of Christ rises in glory,
Casting out the shadow of sin and death.
Glory be to God!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.
On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.
On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.
But today, we know the good news is alive and well.
The good news is out in the world, calling your name!
Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting!
Let us worship our good-news Christ.

* HYMN – 232

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

* GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

Gracious God, we want to be Easter people. We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid. And we don't know where to look. And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing. So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias." We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray, Amen.

* GOD'S ASSURANCE OF RECONCILIATION

Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias," we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God's love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration:

Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.

* OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE – No. 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

* PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMS TO US

AGAPE SINGERS	“Savior, King!”	- Katie Houts
CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN		
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
READING FROM THE PSALMS	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	(OT 694)
ANTHEM	“Christ is Risen from the Dead”	-arr. Lloyd Larson
READING FROM THE GOSPELS	Matthew 28:1-10	(NT 41)
SERMON	“The Good News is Alive in the World”	
HYMN – 246	“Christ is Alive!”	

THE WORD INVITES US

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation for the Offering

* Response of Praise – No. 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY



* Prayer of Dedication

OFFERTORY - PAXTONES

“The Day of Resurrection”

-arr. Brenda E. Austin

THE WORD SEALS US

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer

(Traditional p.35)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your 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.

Words of Institution

Prayer After Communion

THE WORD SENDS US

- * HYMN – 238 “Thine Is the Glory”
- * INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
- * SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING
- * POSTLUDE “Toccata from Symphony No. 5” -Widor

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.
Worship liturgy is adapted from prayers by Sarah Are Speed
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
CCLI#2707192

Directing our worship today: Preacher, Pastor Margaret Poteet; Worship Assistant, Geoffrey Vinton, Conversation with Our Children, Margaret Poteet, Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce; Director of Youth Music, Andrew Vinton; Pianist, Merideth Staudenmaier

AGAPE SINGERS

SAVIOR, KING

KATIE HOUTS

Alleluia, sing!
For Christ is risen: let praises ring!
Alleluia, sing!
Now Christ has conquered death, our
Savior, King!
God’s great love has changed the story:
Heaven’s now in view.
Now we know the tomb is empty:
Jesus lives, it’s true!
Sing for joy!
Alleluia! Amen!



Anthem

Christ Is Risen from the Dead!

arranged by Lloyd Larson

Christ is Risen! Sing alleluia! Celebrate and sing His praise! All creation, sing alleluia! Celebrate this day of days! Christ is risen! Sing alleluia! Gift of God who came to save. All creation, sing alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave! Sent by God to set us free, He lives to reign eternally. Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen from the grave! Christ is risen! Sing alleluia! Celebrate and sing His praise! All creation, sing alleluia! Celebrate this day of days! Son of God who was crucified; the Gift of love now glorified! Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

There is no greater love than this; no greater sacrifice than this that One lay down His life so willingly, the One who lived so perfectly. There's no greater love than this. Christ is risen! Sing alleluia! All creation, sing alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

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, Gary Myers' family, Donna Powers, Elsie Williams, Dave Wion, Kathie Zimmerman

Friends

Atkins Family, Betty Conte, Rev. John Green, Dr. and Mrs. Kent Groff, Kris Heimberger, 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

ABOUT TODAY'S BULLETIN ART In "Meet Me in Galilee," artist Hannah Garrity depicts a great crowd dancing within the space of the empty cross, with doves soaring overhead. "The crowd dancing within the cross celebrates the resurrection of Jesus," she writes. "God has overcome death. Hallelujah!"

ABOUT PAXTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Our Paxton congregation meets in the oldest Presbyterian church building in continuous use in Pennsylvania, and the second oldest in the United States. Its early history is closely interwoven with the colonial history of central Pennsylvania. In fact, during the pre-Revolutionary period, Paxton was the leader of the Harrisburg area - even predating the founding of the city itself. While tradition says that preaching started here as early as 1716, it is known that in 1726, Rev. James Anderson, of Donegal, Pennsylvania, was assigned to be our first regular preacher. He conducted services in a log structure which was located south of the current stone sanctuary. Today, its site is indicated by a stone marker which includes some of the original foundation stones. A replica of the log meeting house, built in 1950, stands on the hill north of the present sanctuary. It serves as a place for rustic services and youth activities. Paxton Church today continues its original mission of being a beacon of the light of Jesus Christ in a troubled world.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER April 12 is fast approaching! We are still in need of more volunteers to help make this event a positive and fun experience. The sign-up board is in the Gathering Room or you can scan the QR code on the poster to register. There are a variety of volunteer options still available. Invite your family and friends to join in the fun. Snack will be provided before the event begins. We are about halfway to our \$4100 goal to fund this event. Donations will be accepted through the 12th. Please put RAH in the memo line. Many thanks for your support.

UNITY CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday April 7, at 12pm in Room 101. Lesson 7 will be discussed.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH AND NURSERY There will be no Children's Church or Nursery on Easter Sunday. Children are welcome to stay and take part in the service. We love a joyful noise!

April 5 - 12

Sunday, April 5	8:00 AM	Easter Worship	<i>Chapel in the Grove</i>
	10:30 AM	Easter Worship	<i>Sanctuary</i>
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	<i>Great Room</i>
Monday, April 6	ALL DAY	OFFICE CLOSED	
Tuesday, April 7	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	<i>PPNS</i>
	10:15 AM	PW Board Meeting	<i>Room 202</i>
	12:00 PM	Unity Circle	<i>Room 202</i>
Wednesday, April 8	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	<i>PPNS</i>
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>
	10:30 AM	Evangelism and Outreach	<i>Room 101</i>
	5:00 PM	Community Meal	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>
	7:00 PM	Worship and Music	<i>Room 202</i>
Thursday, April 9	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	<i>PPNS</i>
	6:00 PM	Paxtang Lions	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Friday, April 10	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	<i>PPNS</i>
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Saturday, April 11	9:30 AM	Knight Visitation and Service	<i>Sanctuary/Great Room</i>
Sunday, April 12	9:00 AM	Sunday School	<i>Agape Park</i>
	10:30 AM	Worship	<i>Sanctuary</i>
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	<i>Great Room</i>

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.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED APRIL 6, 2026.

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	
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	Gary Myers	Jane Sanford
Stephen Ministers	Karen Cirillo	Karen Herrold
	Cheryl Holtzman	Janice Hutchison
	Annette Kilpatrick	Nancy Lengler
	Steve Miller	Kathy Woodbridge

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 Giambrone '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.



232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured,
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King,
Praise our God, ye heav - en - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing.
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Christ Is Alive!

246

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

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Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con- quering Son; end - less is
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness
 with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering
 to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.