



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

A Christ-centered welcoming church committed to peace & justice.

Vol. 73

April 5, 2026

No. 29

Gathering For Worship

Prelude: *Christ is Arisen* (12th century)
This is the Day (16th century anon.)

Easter Choir

Praising

Call To Worship

One: Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

All: By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

One: Come into God's day of resurrection, you who have known grief, you who long for new life, you who carry "Alleluias" in your hearts.

All: In Christ, we gather at the empty tomb.

One: Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

All: To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

*Flower Processional - You are invited to process down the center aisle,
place your flowers and return to your seat by the side aisles.*

Hymn: 346 – *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Hymn: 347 – *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Confessing

Confession

One: Let us affirm our faith as we rejoice in the holy work of imagination.

All: We believe in new life and fresh starts.

We believe people change and situations change.

We believe love and justice can transform the world.

We believe Jesus is alive and well, stoking our imaginations to conceive new ways of bringing the kin(g)dom to earth.

We believe the good news is food for the hungry, healing for the sick, water for the thirsty, and freedom for all the oppressed.

We believe the resurrection of Jesus gives us hope for tomorrow.

We will live, work, play, and sleep in holy anticipation for the good things God will accomplish among us as we continue to follow the way of Jesus.

We dare to dream, to imagine a better world, made right in Christ.

Silence and Breath Prayer: **Rejoice! God renews all things.**

Hymn: 635 – *Alleluia*

Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18

Message: **Transforming Imagination**

Michelle Burkholder

Hymn: 356 – *Be Not Afraid*

Responding

Responding to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Please come forward to the mic if you wish to share something.

Praying Together

Life of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering: *Children are invited to bring their offering forward at this time*

Lent Offering: Life After Release (LAR)

Offering: *You are invited to bring your offering forward at this time*

Offertory: *Christ the Victorious*

Easter Choir

(words by Adam Tice, tune by Norah Duncan IV)

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

*Hallelujah Chorus (from **Messiah**)* - Handel

Easter Choir

Benediction

Lectionary for Next Sunday

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

Calendar

April 6-13: Pastor Michelle on vacation

April 11: Spring Workday in the Back Swamp, 9 a.m. to noon

April 12: Small Group Conversation, 12:15 p.m.

April 30: PG Plaza Day Center Meal, volunteers needed

Announcements

Lent Offering: During Lent, HMC is fundraising and gathering volunteers for Life After Release. Our goal is to fundraise \$5,000 for LAR's Surviving Justice Retreat. To donate, you can either write a check and place it in the LAR donation basket or visit <https://givebutter.com/life-after-release>. To volunteer for a LAR program, please see our fliers in the foyer or visit <https://www.mobilize.us/lifeafterrelease>. If you like paintings, you can "purchase" a painting from a local artist to directly support LAR. See the catalog and more information in the foyer on Sundays.

LAR Jail Support Returns: LAR's Jail Support resumes in April! Donation bins are in the foyer. Items needed now: shoestrings, sanitary pads (various sizes), feminine wipes, travel-size deodorant, mouthwash, toothpaste, lotion, and hand wipes. Food donations will be collected later in April.

Rolling Ridge Study Retreat: May 15-17. Rolling Ridge is located in the mountains above Harper's Ferry, WV. All ages are welcome. There is no cost to attend other than support providing the meals. For more information about Rolling Ridge, visit: <https://rollingridge.net>.

Spring Workday in the Back Swamp: Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m. to noon. Please come out to help remove vines and haul, spread mulch, and other tasks.

Small Group Gathering: Sunday, April 12, 12:15 p.m. after church. Join us for a small group conversation with Matthias Seisay, who will share more about his multiple missions in Sierra Leone.