

Midway Hills  
Christian Church



March 31, 2024  
11 A.M. Worship Service

### **Gathering Meditation**

There are no anonymous deeds, no casual process. Living is a shared process. Even as I am conscious of things growing in me planted by others, which things are always ripening, so others are conscious of things growing in them planted by me, which are always ripening. Inasmuch as I do not live or die unto myself, it is of the essence of wisdom for me conscientiously to live and die in the profound awareness of other people. The statement, "Know thyself," has been taken mystically for the statement, "Thou hast seen thy brother, thou hast seen thy God." – Howard Thurman

# Order of Worship

## Easter Sunday

### Chiming the Hour

Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

### Welcome

Rev. Laurie Anderson

## The Community Gathers

### Prelude

*Were You There?*

arr. by Lloyd Larson

### \*Call to Worship

Joan Holland

One: The tomb is empty!

**All: Christ Is Risen!**

One: The soldiers have returned home.

**All: Christ Is Risen!**

One: The anger of the crowds is gone.

**All: Christ Is Risen!**

One: The time of grieving has ended.

**All: Christ Is Risen!**

One: Violence, fear, and death have disappeared!

**ALL: Christ Is Risen!**

**Come, let us go to the house of the Lord!**

**Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed!**

### \*Hymn 216

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

### Dismissal for Children's Church

Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

## The Community Responds

### Prayers of the People

Rev. Laurie Anderson

### The Lord's Prayer

Congregation

**Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### Prayer Hymn 305

*Lord Listen to  
Your Children Praying*

CHILDREN PRAYING

### Call to Giving

Rob Hendrickson

# The Community Proclaims God's Word

## Anthem

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

## Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Joan Holland

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed. (NRSVUE)

Ahora, hermanos, quiero recordarles las buenas noticias que les prediqué, las mismas que recibieron y en las cuales se mantienen firmes. Mediante estas buenas noticias son salvos, si se aferran a la palabra que les prediqué. De otro modo, habrán creído en vano. Porque ante todo les transmití a ustedes lo que yo mismo recibí: que Cristo murió por nuestros pecados según las Escrituras, que fue sepultado, que resucitó al tercer día según las Escrituras, que se apareció a Cefas y luego a los doce. Después se apareció a más de quinientos hermanos a la vez, la mayoría de los cuales vive todavía, aunque algunos han muerto. Luego se apareció a Santiago, más tarde a todos los apóstoles, y por último, como a uno nacido fuera de tiempo, se me apareció también a mí. Admito que yo soy el más insignificante de los apóstoles y que ni siquiera merezco ser llamado apóstol, porque perseguí a la iglesia de Dios. Pero por la gracia de Dios soy lo que soy y la gracia que él me concedió no se quedó sin fruto. Al contrario, he trabajado con más tesón que todos ellos, aunque no yo, sino la gracia de Dios que está conmigo. En fin, ya sea que se trate de mí o de ellos, esto es lo que predicamos y esto es lo que ustedes han creído. (NVI)

## Sermon

"Deep is the Hunger  
for Resurrection"

Rev. Laurie Anderson

## Moment of Silence

[Please join in singing the response below as the choir leads us.]

**Deep the hunger in the human heart, deep the thirsting in the soul.  
Deep the longing for a fellowship, here to feast and be made whole.**

**Deep the well-spring of amazing grace,  
here where health and hope can grow.**

**Deep the healing for the hungry heart, deep the love we  
seek to know, love that will not let us go.**

## **The Community Is Empowered at the Table**

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes

**Institution of the Table**

Rev. Laurie Anderson

**Communion Prayer**

Carol John

**Communion Hymn 409**

*I Hunger and I Thirst*

IBSTONE

**Communion**

Please hold the "bread" until prompted by the minister. We will eat in unison.

Please hold the "cup" until prompted by the minister. We will drink in unison

**Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes

## **The Community is Sent to Restore God's World**

**\*Hymn 226**

*He Lives!*

ACKLEY

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Laurie Anderson

**\*Benediction Hymn 448**

*May the Blessing of God*

BLESSING SONG

**Postlude**

*Let the Whole Creation Cry Alleluia!*

arr. Penny Rodriguez

\*Please rise in either body or spirit.

Prelude: *Were You There?* arr. by Lloyd Larson. ©2009 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

Anthem: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, arr. Gilbert M. Martin. ©1970 Theodore Presser Co.

*Deep the Hunger*, words and music by Ken Medema. ©2024 Ken Medema Music.

Postlude: *Let the Whole Creation Cry Alleluia!* Arr. Penny Rodriguez. ©2009 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

# INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet with the ministers after the service in the gathering area, or contact the church office any time.

## CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."

## VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity. We are an **Open and Affirming** congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger, and social issues that afflict our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

### MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Rev. Laurie Anderson  
Senior Minister

Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes  
Minister of Church Life

Kathy Corporon  
Coordinator of  
Children's Programs

Jeff Crouse  
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons  
Administrative Assistant

TECH CREW  
DC Ciccone, John Leslie  
James Lackey

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE  
Emily Adams  
Kate Lynch

MARCH ELDERS  
Carol John  
Lynne Stokes  
*Frank Martin, Elders Chair*

MARCH DEACONS  
Hannah Ciccone, Mark Holmgren  
Christy Horn  
*John Nation, Deacons Chair*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter for details and more.)

## **Easter Sunday, March 31, at Midway Hills Christian Church:**

Son-Rose Service, 9:00 a.m. at the pavilion.

Breakfast served, 9:30–10:30 a.m. in community hall.

Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

## **Children's Church will meet March 31.**

## **Interpretación en español proporcionada por el Colectivo Comal.**

Si desea usar la interpretación simultánea, consulte al equipo de la mesa de sonido. O use este enlace para unirse al grupo de Whatsapp para escuchar. Por favor, silénciate.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JRxSth4JgjX0shCBm3qGo2>

## **Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings.**

April 1 – Elders Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

April 2 – Refugee Resettlement Meeting, 1:00 p.m.

April 3 & 17 – Staff Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

April 8 – Justice Committee, 7:00 p.m.

April 11 & 25 – Elders Prayer, 8:30 a.m. *Open to any MHCC member who would like to join. Our emphasis is prayers for MHCC, local, state, national and global issues.*

April 7 – Executive Committee Retreat, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

April 11 – Finance Team, 7:30 p.m.

April 14 – Board Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

April 18 – Men's Lunch Group, 1:00 p.m.

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Christian Church:



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# JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

## **Please pray for these in our church family:**

Emily Adams, Tinker Miller, Bryen Lackey

## **Please pray for our extended church family concerns:**

Megan Mercer's father, Richard Richarson, her mother, Sue, and her siblings; Megan Mercer's friends the Walters family; Jim Gilmore's daughter, Annette Melton; Christy Horn's mother, Nancy Glover; Christy Horn's mother-in-law; Christy Horn's father-in-law, David Horn; Christy Horn's family friend, Lydia Bailey; Jeryl Crawford's family member Tony Olexa; David Hammons' wife, Joan; asylum guests past and present

## **Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:**

Cathy Parker	Jeryl Crawford	Jayne & Chris Sparrer
Peggy Dowdey	Christy, Fletcher and Cameron Horn	
Frank & Millie Martin	Chris Holland	

## **Sympathy:**



## **Let's celebrate with joy:**

- The work of Annunciation House in El Paso
- Deacons and Elders serving at MHCC
- Hosting asylum seekers at MHCC
- Our guests/visitors in worship

## **Please pray for our city and state:**

- Repeal of SB4
- School redistricting in Texas
- Steps that erode our civil rights and safety
- Food scarcity
- Metro school boundaries being changed

## **Please pray for our nation and world:**

- Peace and safety for the people of Ukraine.
- Peace for Israel and Palestine – cease fire
- All who are suffering from climate disasters worldwide.
- End to gun violence, and those impacted by it.
- Anti LGBTQ legislation
- All who struggle with mental health.

# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 2024

## **Easter Sunday** **March 31**

9:00 a.m.	Son-Rose Service, pavilion	9:30 a.m.	Breakfast (until 10:30)
9:30 a.m.	Choir practice	10:00 a.m.	Egg Hunt
11:00 a.m.	Children's Church	11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship

## **Monday** **April 1**

7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting

## **Tuesday** **April 2**

8:00 a.m. Raincatcher's Education Event (until 1:00) community hall, kitchen  
9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 4:00) exterior gardens  
11:30 a.m. First Tuesday Ladies' Lunch Group  
1:00 p.m. Refugee Resettlement Meeting, conference room  
7:30 p.m. Primary Purpose Group & PPG-AAFG, community hall, room 1

## **Wednesday** **April 3**

10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study (until 11:30) conference room  
12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, conference room

## **Thursday** **April 4**

9:00 a.m. Master Gardeners (until 11:00) community hall  
7:30 p.m. Primary Purpose Group & PPG-AAFG, community hall, room 1

## **Saturday** **April 6**

7:30 p.m. Primary Purpose Group Birthdays Celebration, community hall, kitchen

## **Sunday** **April 7**

9:30 a.m.	Choir practice	9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Children's Church	11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
12:00 p.m.	Executive Committee Retreat (until 2:00)		

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