



310 First Avenue South 715-423-0180  
[www.wrmoravian.org](http://www.wrmoravian.org)

*“Sharing Christ, Serving People”*

Sunday, May 4, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE: "You Are My All in All"

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 30 (vs 4-5, 11-12 adapted)

L: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

C: **For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the  
morning.**

L: You have turned our mourning into dancing; you have taken off  
our sackcloth and clothed us with joy, so that our souls may  
praise you and not be silent.

C: **O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

(Please sign Welcome Pad)

\*HYMN #386 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE with PASTORAL 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 trespasses as we forgive  
those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and  
the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: "You Are Here, Lord"

-Nelson

\*RESPONSE: **Praise God, who blesses from above;  
Praise Jesus Christ, God's living love;  
Praise God, whose Spirit in us lives;  
We praise you God through what we give. Amen.**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the  
disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest<sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to  
the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the  
Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup> Now as

he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” <sup>5</sup>He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”

<sup>11</sup>The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup>I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup>So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup>and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup>and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

### John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### HYMN

### “How Great the Bliss”

1. How great the bliss to be a sheep of Je - sus, and to be  
 2. Here is a pas - ture, rich and nev - er fail - ing, here liv - ing  
 3. Who - e - er would spend, their days in last - ing pleas - ure can come to

guid - ed by his shep - herd's staff. Earth's great - est joys, how - ev - er they may  
 wa - ters in a - bund - ance flow; None can con - ceive the grace with them pre -  
 Christ and join his flock with speed; Here is a feast, food rich be - yond all

please us, com - pared to this are vain and emp - ty chaff.  
 vail - ing, who Je - sus' shep - herd voice o - bey and know.  
 meas - sure, mean - while the world on emp - ty husks must feed.

Yea what this world can nev - er give to us, may through God's  
 He ban - ish - es all fear and strife and leads them gent - ly  
 The Shep - herd does God's trea - sur - ies pos - sess, we now may

grace, may through God's grace, come to each one; each need - y sheep re -  
 on, them gent - ly on to ev - er - last - ing life with God a -  
 share in eve - ry good; We now may share in feed - ing all the

ceives, the Shep - herd's grace, the Shep - herd's grace.  
 bove, the Shep - herd leads to God a - bove.  
 flock, the Shep - herd asks to feed the flock.

MESSAGE

\*LITURGY of Discipleship – pg. 37

BENEDICTION

ELDERS UPDATE

POSTLUDE “Bind Us Together”

\*Stand as able

**WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK**

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! Revelation 5:12

**IN OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING**

Ministers .....All who serve Jesus Christ  
Pastor..... Rev. Beth Rohn-Habegger  
Keyboardist.....Julie Rucks  
POP Musicians.....John Gunn & Jill Kemp

**IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION THIS WEEK**

TODAY at 9:00 am.....Church School  
10:15 am.....Worship  
4:30 pm.....Mother/Child Dinner  
TUESDAY at 4:30 pm.....TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)  
6:30 pm..... Vacation Bible School Planning  
WEDNESDAY at 6:00 pm..... Confirmation  
THURSDAY at 9:30 am.....Alanon  
NEXT SUNDAY at 9:00 am.....Church School  
10:15 am.....Worship

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Patty (Schoechert) Beyer, Jan Baker’s daughter (Natalie), Ashley & Kolby Kelnhofer, Marie Kaszuba, Alice Lavin, Marilyn Dakins, Jim Laufenberg, Lorraine Abbott, Linda (Behrend) Nelson, Dave Plummer, Kurt Young, Neil Nursing/Assisted Living Residents: Rita Andersen, Laniece Haferman, Diane Klawikowski, Deb Maier, Barb Scholl, Lucy Severt

Hospice Care: Marion Bailey, Marilyn Hutter

At home: Lloyd Young, Paul & Marie Knipple

Servicemen: Paul & David Eklund, Mason Fellowes, Elias Thelemann

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our **Joyful Noise** offering this month will go to **Jeremiah's Crossing**. **Jeremiah's Crossing** is a nonprofit mission ministry. This serves as a therapeutic horseback-riding ranch and is located in Babcock, Wisconsin. The ranch is dedicated to helping horses help children and adults with diagnosed physical, cognitive, emotional and academic special needs at no cost to the students and their families.
- Just a reminder that a signup sheet for **Coffee Hour hosts** is located in the Social Room. Call the church office (715) 423-0180 or Kathy Plante (715) 459-1110 if you have any questions.
- **POP (Prelude, Offertory and Postlude) musicians** are needed. To schedule a date or check availability, you can call Diane Renner (715-325-5300) or just talk to her at church.
- The Board of Trustees has established a **Donation List** of items that we use around the church. You can find the list on our website or on the bulletin board in the south hallway. Thank you to those who have supported this.
- General Fund Income for March = \$8,241.34  
Income Needed Per Month = \$15,306.58  
Average Worship Attendance = 58

# Temple of Dirt

The clay stretches and thins as it starts to take the shape of a bowl. Hands away, I slow the wheel down to have a look. Levered back against the wheel, getting a better perspective, I see it's almost there. The bowl needs more volume, and the shape could be a more consistent curve downward toward the narrow base. One last pull. I use a sponge to mop the water out of the base, then upcycle the water inside the portion of the bowl that needs expansion. The bowl will sink a little bit as the clay thins further and takes the final shape. The sponge and a wooden straightedge give the burnished look that makes the clay look silken, even if it still feels more mud. Running the cut-off wire under the base, the pot separates from the wheel to rest on the drying rack.

A heavy hand, a bubble in the clay, even a clumsy wind is enough to spoil any vessel at any moment, but it's just dirt. The star-stuff that everything is made of, that received God's life-giving wind, it's all just dirt. We are just dirt.

The time and dedication necessary to craft the beautiful vessel, to be a servant to our neighbors and enemies, to follow The Good Shepherd—they are all made of delicate moments and gentle care in the midst of constant, even violent, entropy. We will all suffer pain; the stones of our lives may fall and break on one another until it seems there is nothing that will give us life again. And yet the dirt that we were made of can be lifted up again, because we believe that a life of service to one another is enough to make a temple of everyone.

*Andrew Craver, pastor, Rural Hall Moravian Church,  
Rural Hall, North Carolina*

---

## The Moravian Church

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

