

Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church



Worship for April 28, 2024

Worship for the Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

Meditation (in preparation for worship)

"I have learned to prize holy ignorance more highly than religious certainty and to seek companions who have arrived at the same place. We are a motley crew, distinguished not only by our inability to explain ourselves to those who are more certain of their beliefs than we are but in many cases by our distance from the center of our faith communities as well."

Barbara Brown Taylor
in *Leaving Church*

"...the official...went on his way rejoicing."

Acts 8:39

"But little by little - less by taking pains than by taking it easy - the forgiven person starts to become a forgiving person, the healed person to become a healing person, the loved person to become a loving person. God does most of it. The end of the process...is eternal life."

Frederick Buechner
in *Wishful Thinking*

Hymn Sing (Please remain seated.)

Hymn #37	<i>Let All Things Now Living</i> (v. 1)	Ash Grove
Hymn #352	<i>My Lord! What a Morning</i> (v. 1)	My Lord, What a Morning
Hymn #311	<i>Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather</i> (v. 1)	Tokyo

Welcome!

*We are so glad you are here! If you are new or visiting, please sign the guest pad in the pews.
We hope you will join us for refreshments during our Fellowship Hour after the service.*

Please stand if you are able. Congregation reads aloud the **bold print.*

Call to Worship:

Psalm 118:19-24

Janine Bernard

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; those who are righteous may enter.

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day, the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

***Hymn #611**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, in the presence of your wisdom and love, we confess our sins. We have sinned against the light that is in us, finding ingenious excuses for not doing what we know we ought to do, and even more ingenious excuses for doing what we know we ought not. We have sinned against our neighbor, failing to value him or consider her as we do ourselves. We have done much harm, and even our good is not good enough. God, all this is sin against you. We pray you forgive us and recommission us in the Spirit of Christ.

A Time of Silence

Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession-confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God's beloved child.

Collect

Declaration of Pardon

I John 4:7-21

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven
Through Christ, God restores us to faith, hope and love.
The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

***Passing the Peace**

***Gloria**

We Are One in the Spirit (Hymn #300 v.1)

*We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.*

*And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they will know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

Children's Conversation

Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

Scripture

Acts 8:26-40

Janine Bernard

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was

this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

***Hymn #729**

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

African American Spiritual

A Few Words about Scripture

Rev. Hayes

Offering

Anthem

The Spacious Firmament On High
(text from B. Britten’s *Noyes Fludde*)

Thomas Tallis

***Doxology:** Please join choir in last verse of Anthem for Doxology

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

***Dedication**

Announcements

Please wait for the microphones when making announcements. The microphone should be held parallel to the floor and about 6 inches from your mouth.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

***Hymn #265** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (v. 1-4)* Duke Street

***Benediction**

***Chorale Response (STF #2280)** *The Lord Bless and Keep You* Strathdee Benediction



Welcome to our worship at Pebble Hill!

*If you are with us for the first time, we hope that you find our worship
meaningful and our fellowship inviting.*

Please reach out to Stuart or Nancy Byrne to learn more about Pebble Hill Church.

Church Staff

Rev. Stuart Hayes, Pastor	stuarthayes08@gmail.com
Mara Miller, Office Administrator	officeadmin@twcny.rr.com
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Bob Wolff, Sexton	
Nancy Byrne, New Members' Ministry	nancyhippsbyrne@gmail.com

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- ❖ We rejoice with Elizabeth Metz on her son Paul's move.
- ❖ We pray for Donna Sognefest's sister-in-law, who is recovering from a heart attack.
- ❖ We pray for Karen Low's brother-in-law, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- ❖ We pray for peace in Sudan.
- ❖ We pray for children in Yemen who struggle to survive in the midst of war and famine.
- ❖ We pray for the people in Haiti dealing with chaos and violence.
- ❖ We pray for everyone in this country and around the world experiencing antisemitism and Islamophobia.
- ❖ We pray for the Palestinian people who are caught in the vicious conflict between Israel and Hamas and for the Israeli hostages and their families waiting for their release.
- ❖ We pray for the relief workers who are risking their lives to get much needed supplies to the people of Gaza.
- ❖ We pray for the Ukrainian and Russian people who continue to endure conflict and violence.
- ❖ We pray for the medical professionals around the globe tending to the needs of people in war zones.

- ❖ We pray for all caregivers in hospitals, urgent care facilities, long-term care facilities and those who provide at-home care.
- ❖ We pray for the Eastern Farmworkers, who provide for those who work our central New York farms.

Announcements



THE AMERICAN **RED CROSS** NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please sign up to donate, recruit new donors or volunteer to help on May 11 from 8:00 to 10:30 or 10:30 to 1:00. See Maggie Reid for more information.

Pebble Hill sponsors two blood drives each year. This means we recruit donors, get volunteers to assist with registration and canteen, and offer our space to the Red Cross. Will you help make this drive a success by donating or volunteering?

Please call 1-800 Red Cross, download the blood app or visit redcrossblood.org to register to donate.

Thank you for supporting this Pebble Hill mission and spreading the word to anyone who might donate.

Join us Sunday, May 5 for our Annual Meeting & Spring Salad Potluck Luncheon

What is your favorite salad? Tuna, chicken, egg, pasta, Caesar, fruit, potato, macaroni or another? Come to our salad luncheon on May 5, right after the annual meeting, and feast. Bring a salad to share and enjoy the variety, fun and fellowship.

There will be a sign-up sheet for salad and dessert and also help with clean-up. We are supporting the Diaper Bank of CNY with our monetary donations. Please speak with a Deacon if you have any questions.



The Week at Pebble Hill 4/28 – 5/4

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Coffee and Fellowship Hour – Atrium
	6:00 pm	Master’s Touch Rehearsal – FH
Monday	9:30 am	Bluebirds – KR
	4:30 pm	Bluebirds – KR
	6:00 pm	PNC – Forum
Tuesday	9:30 am	Bluebirds – KR
	3:00 pm	On Point Español – CE#3
Wednesday	2:00 pm	Worship at The Nottingham
	4:30 pm	ESCG – Lounge
	4:30 pm	Bluebirds – KR
Thursday	9:30 am	Bluebirds – KR
	4:30 pm	Bluebirds – KR
	5:00 pm	Salt City Ukulele Rehearsal – FH
Friday	1:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	9:00 am	Bluebirds – KR
	9:30 am	Deacons Spring Brunch Set-Up – FH
	9:30 am	Schola Cantorum Rehearsal – Sanctuary
	12:30 pm	Schola Cantorum Rehearsal – Sanctuary

PEBBLE HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am–1:00 pm

5299 Jamesville Rd., DeWitt, NY 13214

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THANK YOU TO TODAY'S ASSISTANTS:
JANET TERWILLIGER AND CHRIS KLEMPERER – USHERS

REV. STUART HAYES – BRIDGE PASTOR
CHARLOTTE HAAS QUIRK – PIANIST
JANINE BERNARD – LITURGIST

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ARE LIVE STREAMING THIS MORNING'S SERVICE.

