



**Richardson Park United Methodist Church**  
*Celebrating Over 100 Years of Ministry*

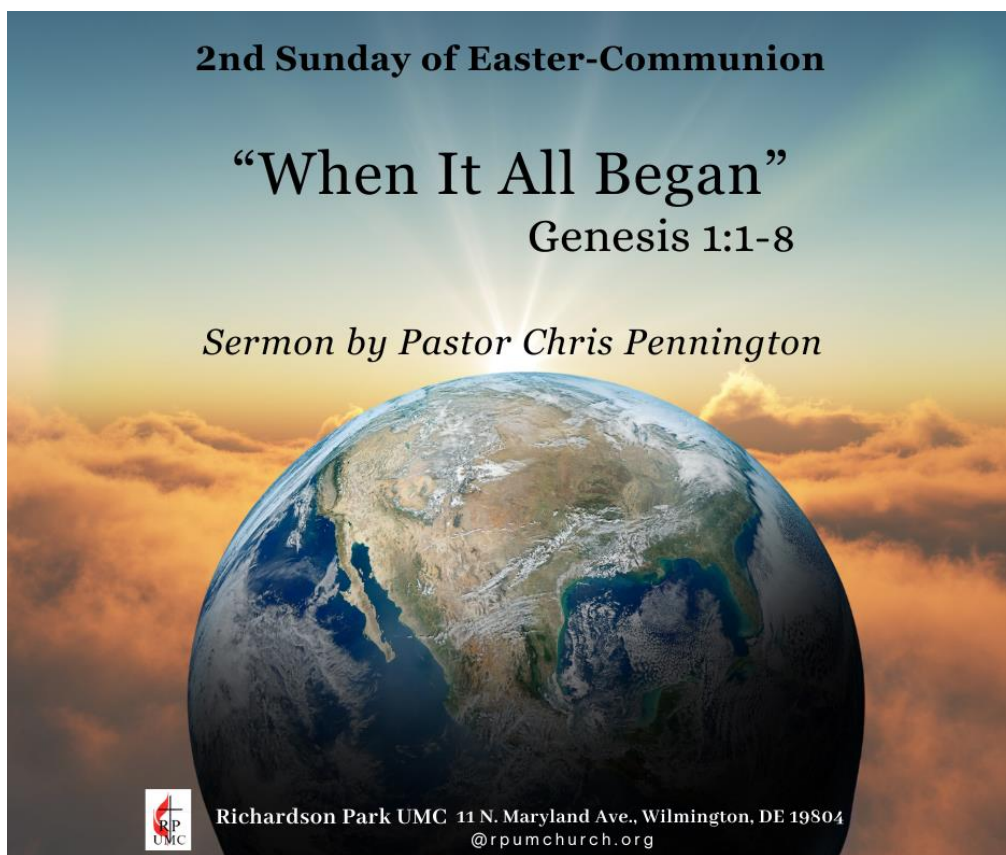
*The mission of Richardson Park United Methodist Church is to help people experience the amazing love of God and develop a vital relationship with Jesus Christ*


And He said to them,  
“Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”  
*Mark 16:15 NRSV*

**2nd Sunday of Easter-Communion**

**“When It All Began”**  
Genesis 1:1-8

*Sermon by Pastor Chris Pennington*



 Richardson Park UMC 11 N. Maryland Ave., Wilmington, DE 19804  
@rpumchurch.org

*Welcome to RPUMC Worship Service*

*April 7, 2024*

# **Richardson Park United Methodist Church**

*2nd Sunday of Easter – Communion*

## **ENTRANCE**

**PRELUDE**      “You Are Awesome, God”      Charles F. Gounod

“Welcome to RPUMC! We greet you with the love and peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
We are a church committed to God’s mission and purpose for the world.  
We pray you are blessed in worship with us this morning.”

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let your light shine!

**People: Let your hearts be glad!**

Leader: God is faithful to us, and God rules in love.

**People: Then let us worship God.**

### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

Paul Weaver

**\*OPENING HYMN**      “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

UMH 89

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

**Easter is such a wonderful season, Lord. Hope springs anew in our hearts. As the earth is being refreshed by the warmth of spring, so we have been refreshed and made new by the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. And we want to stay in this euphoria forever. But you have called us to go into the valley, to those who need to hear of your love and to feel your caring presence. In his words of hope, Jesus prepared his disciples to be witnesses. We have heard these words before, but far too often, we have turned our backs to this message. We don’t quite believe that we are capable of actually living our whole lives in your love. So we act in ways that are often neglectful and hurtful of others. We take more time pampering ourselves than we do helping other people. It is easier to justify our selfish desires than it is to witness to your transforming love. Stop us in our tracks, O Lord. Turn us around. Help us to face our weakness and your forgiving grace. Heal us of our sins, and place us again on the paths of peace. We ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God has remembered God’s steadfast love to all the people. We are healed and called to again be God’s beloved children and witnesses. Receive that healing love and share the good news with all you meet, that God is love and in God there is no darkness or fear.  
AMEN.

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

### **RECEPTION OF TITHES & GIFTS**

**\*DOXOLOGY**      “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 94

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*SCRIPTURE LESSON** Genesis 1:1-8

Paul Weaver

**SERMON** "When It All Began"

Rev. J. Christopher Pennington

### RESPONSE

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

UMH 173

**HOLY COMMUNION**

UMH 15-16

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung in Unison)**

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### SENDING FORTH

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us"

UMH 100

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL AMEN**

**POSTLUDE** "He Is Exalted"

**(1Chron. 29:11 Eph. 2:19-22)**

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*The flowers at the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ruth T. Gibney and Leonard P. Gibney by their children.*

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### THIS WEEK

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**SUNDAY, APRIL 7 – FH RESERVED**

9 AM – ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – LOUNGE

10 AM–10:25 AM – FELLOWSHIP TIME – EXT.

10:30 AM – WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 – NO EVENTS SCHEDULED**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9 – NO EVENTS SCHEDULED**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 – NO EVENTS SCHEDULED**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11**

9 AM – BMG – EXT.

11 AM-2 PM – THE SHOPPE & ANNEX at RPUMC

**OPEN** for shopping *Proceeds Benefit Missions/Outreach*

11:30 AM-12:30 PM – FREE LUNCH – FH

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

2 PM – BOOK CLUB – LOUNGE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13 – FH RESERVED**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – NATIVE AMERICAN**

**MINISTRIES SUNDAY**

**FH RESERVED**

9 AM – ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – LOUNGE

10 AM–10:25 AM – FELLOWSHIP TIME – EXT.

10:30 AM – WORSHIP & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

11:30 AM – UWIF MTG. – EXT.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

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A note from Betty Swain – God bless my husband Marvin, our children and grandchildren who are taking such good care of me.

Altar Flower opening – Altar flowers are available on Sunday, April 14th and Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to place flowers on the altar in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office. The cost for two vases is \$30.00. Thank you.

Book Club – Our March meeting was held on Friday, March 8th at 2 pm at the church. We discussed “Seventy Times Seven” by Alex Mar. We had a lively, very interesting discussion on mercy, forgiveness and capital punishment. We received our books from New Castle Reads, “The Violin Conspiracy” by Brendan Slocumb. This is the book we will discuss at our April meeting on Friday, April 12th at 2 pm at the Church. We will attend the event with the author on April 30, 2024 at 7 pm at the Chase Center. We will meet for dinner at Iron Hill before the event. Coming attractions include “I Know Who You Are” by Barbara Rae-Venter, “The Senator’s Wife”, by Liv Constantine, and “The Guest List” by Lucy Foley. And if you would like to join us and have a book to share with the club, please let me know. A number of our recent books have come from your suggestions, please keep those coming! Thanks, Paul

Fellowship Time – Sunday Social has resumed and meets from 10 am until 10:25 am in the Extension before morning worship. Join us for fellowship. We will have snacks, coffee and tea to enjoy. Donations of prewrapped snacks, if you are able to contribute, would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, Dottie & Rose

Flower Containers – We love delivering altar flowers to shut-ins and they love the visit BUT we are in need of containers. I have found the 1 lb. metal coffee cans do work very well. Please donate these so we can continue this wonderful program. Blessings, Marlene

Free Lunch – Free Lunch program is continuing every Thursday 11:30 am-12:30 pm. We prepare a hot lunch in a take-out container at the main door of the church. Each person also receives a ‘bag of blessings’. Our group of dedicated volunteers work on Wednesday mornings preparing food and the ‘bags of blessings’ to hand out. We are averaging about 100 meals a week now. Contributions of items are always accepted. Some church members pick up meals and deliver them to family and elderly neighbors. Thank you for your contributions.

Free Bread – Peniel UMC has free loaves of bread available every Thursday 9am to 12:30pm, Friday 9am to 12:30pm and on Sundays from 11:15am to 12:30pm. Feel free to stop in to get a loaf or two. Come to the fellowship hall entrance located under the canopy on the parking lot side of the church.

The Shoppe – is **Open** for shopping on Thursdays from 11 am until 2 pm. Stop on by The Shoppe & Annex, grab a deal or two and be sure to tell your family and friends! Thank you everyone for your support! *Proceeds Benefit Mission/Outreach*



# Prayer Requests



Barbara Sayles, JoAnn and Sam Guidry, Charlene Workman, Jerry and Mike Paoli and families, Randy, Olivia and Gillian Ide, Gregg, Joy and Abbi Ide, Shirley Davis, Beca, Anthony and Kaiden DiGiacomo, James Baird, Kim, John, Nick and John III Sagrati, Tyler and Becky Heatwole and Niko, Dave Jones, Al Heatwole, John, Lauren and Luca Sagrati, homeless animals, Amy Gould and family, Sister Morgan, Connie Pondok, Sean Short, Kim and Dakota, Jessica Etter and family, Felicia Etter and family, Julia Lynch, Crozier family, Dianna Deaton and family, Cherie Krebs, Shirley Delpizzo, Steven, Tonja, Natalie, Hillary, Sharon, Amanda, Mozes, Sisk family, Cathell family, Norvell family, Eric, Denise and Sherrie, Hayes family, Przywara family, patience, Carol, Wanda and Kevin, Davis family, Michael, Elizabeth C. Keeth, Pat Rodenhiser, Beth K., Brenda Williams, Susan and Ken Malone, Houston A. Rogers, Grant Rogers, Troy Rogers, Theresa Gommer and family, Rick and Kim Polk, Brenda and Dan Dan, Ronnie and Hannah, border agents and families, military families, Jim Durkee, Harold Ritter, Roger Longest, Gaza/Ukraine, first responders, all affected by bridge collapse, all homeless and hungry families everywhere, Patty Dominguez, Greg Closs, Cassandra King, Rebecca King, James King, Tundra King, Crinkle King, Richie King, Steven Beaver, Joe Markland, Keith Holder, Haley DeJesus, Alizé DeJesus, Matthew Cruz, Darryl and Jeanne Remedio, Gary and Sue Pinkowski, John and Donna Mahoney, Gene and Tracy Filliben, Millie Bradshaw and family, Don Moyer, Sam Rosado, Guy Campbell, our armed forces, all law enforcement,, firefighter and EMTs, the United States, Israel, justice, liberty, doctors and nurses, nursing homes and hospitals and staffs, military families, newborns and children, all Veterans, teachers and students, World Peace, Joe and Brenda Tucker, Janet Dickerson, Ed and Sandy Ide, all clergy everywhere, Terri Williams and family, Cheryl and Jim Chilcutt and family, all elderly and the homebound, children of our church, our prayers

## SERVING TODAY

WORSHIP LEADER: PAUL WEAVER

GREETER: MARIE WALKER

MUSICIAN: JANET BRUSH, ORGANIST

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

3/31/24 84

LIVE ENGAGEMENT- WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN

## *About RPUM Church*

The first services were held under a large tree in 1907 at the corner of Belmont Avenue and DuPont Road. The first church building was completed in 1908 at Glenrich Avenue and Eureka Street. The church relocated to its current location in 1926, and the present sanctuary was built in 1950. Richardson Park United Methodist Church has had a long and distinguished ministry in the community dedicated to producing fruit that is pleasing to the Lord. This tradition continues today.

**REV. J. CHRISTOPHER PENNINGTON**

**11 North Maryland Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19804-1305**

**Phone: (302) 654-0961 Fax: (302) 655-7446 Pastor's Cell: (302) 229-5626**

**OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM-3 PM M-F E-mail: [rpumc@rpumchurch.org](mailto:rpumc@rpumchurch.org)**

**Web: [www.rpumchurch.org](http://www.rpumchurch.org) Facebook: [@rpumchurch](https://www.facebook.com/rpumchurch)**