

WELCOME ALL
TO
EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE



APRIL 12, 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
April 12, 2020
Easter Sunday

Prelude “Christ Is Risen, Shout Hosanna”

No. 104

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: This is the day
**All: angels bring light into our shadows,
and gardeners harvest good news.**

One: This is the day the Lord
**All: awakens us with unexpected grace,
and the sun breaks out in song.**

One: This is the day the Lord has made!
**All: The day when life triumphs over death,
when love pushes aside fear,
when hope walks with us in every moment.**

Opening Sentences

One: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!
All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

Opening Hymn: “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

No. 123

Prayer of Adoration

One: Glory to you, O God:
you have won victory over death,
raising Jesus from the grave
and giving us eternal life.

**All: Glory to you, O Christ:
for us and for our salvation you overcame death
and opened the gate to everlasting life.**

One: Glory to you, O Holy Spirit:
you lead us into the truth.

**All: Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity,
now and forever. Amen.**

Litany for Easter

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve,
and to many faithful witnesses.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: At last he came to us, that we might come to believe
and proclaim this good news to the world.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

Invitation to Confession

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,
so, that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit
we have been raised from the waters of baptism
to share in your glorious resurrection.**

Yet we have not lived as Easter people.

**We are unsure of your promise,
confused about your will,
and afraid in the face of danger.**

**Like Mary, we weep at the tomb,
but do not recognize your presence.**

**Call us by name, risen Lord,
that we may know you with confidence.**

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Prayer of Confession (*unison*) *continued*

Whenever we are tempted to fear death,
give us courage to confess your Easter victory.
Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts,
keep our minds on your reconciling love.
Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil,
reveal again to us your triumph over
the destructive powers of oppression.
Forgive us our sin
and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation
through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (*singing*)

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon

On this Easter, as on the first; on this day, as on every day;
God turns to us, calls us by name, and plants forgiveness and hope in our lives.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

- H.W. Grotorex, 1851

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

Congregational Hymn: "Lift High the Cross"

No. 371

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God,
by the power of your Spirit
roll away the stone
and reveal to us the Word of Life. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25

P. 696 in the Old Testament

For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.

Musical Anthem: “The Holy City”

- *Stephen Adams, 1958*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them,

“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we do not know where they have laid him.”

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.

The two were running together,

but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb.

He saw the linen wrappings lying there,

and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head,

not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb.

As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;

and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”

She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord,
and I do not know where they have laid him.”

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there,

but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?”

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him,

“Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him,
and I will take him away.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her,

“Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father.

But go to my brothers and say to them,

‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,

“I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sermon: Called by Name

Rev. Jim DeMent

John 20:16: Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: "The Day of Resurrection"

No. 118

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In every time and every age, O God,
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,
for your mercy is sure
and your steadfast love endures forever.

In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,
who sets us free from death
and leads us to life eternal.

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And so, with all creation,
with all the needy and hungry ones,
with all those who have enough and plenty,
with creatures large and small,
with sun and moon and stars,
and with the saints of every age,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (UNISON):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.
By your power and love you continue
to deliver your people from bondage,
thwart the designs of evil,
show the way through the wilderness,
turn hardship into righteousness,
and reveal your hand upholding the just.

Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.
You came among us to feed and heal and teach,
to confound the haughty,
to confuse the deceivers,
to challenge the wrong-hearted,
and, in all these things,
to give hope to those who long for peace.

Remembering our Lord's self-giving love,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

GREAT IS THE MYSTERY OF FAITH (UNISON):

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.
You give us words when we have none;
you fill us with vision when we have the most need;
you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.
Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
Spirit of Love,
Breath of Life.
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,
and teach us to proclaim with her,
“I have seen the Lord!”

In the unity of the Holy Trinity,
in gratitude for this great day of resurrection,
we praise you, God of all that is,
now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Gracious God, we give you thanks
that by the witness of your word
and the sharing of this meal
you have opened our hearts and eyes
to the presence of Christ among us.

All: Now send us forth from this place
by the power of your Spirit
to tell this good news to the world:
The Lord has risen indeed! Amen.

Closing Hymn: “Thine Is the Glory”

No. 122

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: “Christ Is Alive”

No. 108

Lyrics from *The Presbyterian Hymnal*
(Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990)
Follow the verses in this order: Verse 1 Verse 3
 Verse 2 Verse 4

Christ Is Risen, Shout Hosanna!

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
All creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
See, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
Bring a taste of love unknown.
Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
Where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia!
Unto Christ our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Lift High the Cross

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us life eternally.

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

The Day of Resurrection

The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness,
The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
From this world to the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over,
With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
Of resurrection light;
And listening to his accents,
May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,
May raise the victor strain.

Thine Is the Glory

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son:
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness,
Hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting

Christ Is Alive

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now,
And touching every place and time.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph,
And all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
Their notes in gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen,
Our joy that hath no end.

No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without Thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors,
Thro' thy deathless love:
Bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

Not throned afar, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Savior in the God-head reigns.

In every insult, rift and war,
Where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, where even hope has died.

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler
Leonard “Mac” McCameron

Nathan Galvan
(Son of Leila Galvan)

John & Jere Swoboda
(Prior FPC Members)

Gloria Aouelle
Roland Merrill
Angie Longoria
(Kids for Christ Parent)

Carol Wisdom
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

Roxanna Hauschild
Rickey Ramseur
Julianna Longoria
(Kids for Christ Disciple)

Claire Heger
Samantha Skaggs
(Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**All activities suspended,
pending further notice,
due to public health concerns.**

FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds
Dawn Neel, Christian Education
Linda Patterson, Worship
Marsha Ricottilli, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach
Susan Salinas, Caregiving & Fellowship
Jim Stokes, Finance
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bill Wilkinson, Personnel

Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School

Pastor’s Notes

This is nothing in the Presbyterian tradition that prevents you from sharing in the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper with us at home. As the Pastor and the Clerk of the Session serve each other communion, you should feel free to join us in sharing this sacred meal. There are many possibilities to use for the elements: a bread of any sort is suitable, including crackers, tortillas, etc.; and any sort of fruit juice would be appropriate, as would wine or even water. It is our hope that in sharing the sacrament in this extraordinary way we may be mindful of our common faith and the life we share with the Body of Christ.

Remember also, in the Presbyterian tradition we believe that God hosts a table open to all who seek to be followers of Jesus Christ. The table is wide enough, ample enough, and open enough to serve all of God’s creation.

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
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