

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



APRIL 19, 2020

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
April 19, 2020
Second Sunday of Easter

Prelude: “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”

No. 115

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

All: **God has given us a new birth in the living hope
of the resurrection.**

One: God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable
and unfading.

All: **In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.**

One: For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;
and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

All: **For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.**

Opening Hymn: “To God Be the Glory”

No. 485

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

God of signs and wonders,
you have revealed to us that
Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior.
Strengthen our faith,
that we may have life in Christ’s name. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

God has been made known to us
in deeds of power, signs, and wonders,
and will not abandon us if we confess
the truth about our lives.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God, you have made known to us the ways of life.
Yet, too often, we put other things above you
and turn away from the ways of life
and toward the ways of death.
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,
that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (*singing in unison*)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

My friends, God is our refuge
and will not abandon us.
In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God.
That is a promise of peace and joy;
share that peace with one another.

Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

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.

Prayer for Illumination

Guiding God,
send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word
that it may serve to show us the path of life
and lead us into your presence
where there is fullness of joy. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

P.P.119-120 in the New Testament

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

(continued on next page)

First Scripture Reading: (*continued*)

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Organ Anthem: “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

No. 106

Second Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

P.P. 114-115 in the New Testament

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon: After Easter

Rev. Jim DeMent

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: “Breath on Me, Breath of God”

No. 316

Affirmation of Faith

The Creed of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (*singing in unison*)

Closing Hymn: “The Strife is O’er”

No. 119

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: “Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing”

No. 111

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this “Virtual Worship Service.” All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990). We encourage you to read along, nay!, sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, this Easter Season. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
Of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel
Into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot
Through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today;
Christ hath burst his prison,
And from three days' sleep in death,
As a sun hath risen.
Now rejoice, Jerusalem,
And with true affection
Welcome in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection!

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done!

Great things He hath taught us,
Great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.



Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news o’er all the earth.;
Jesus has died and has risen.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

The Strife Is O’re

The strife is o’er, the battle done,
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed:
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

Good Christians all rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord of Life is risen today!
Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way!
Let all every tongue rejoice and say:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever.

Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glow with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

The three sad days are quickly sped,
Christ rises glorious from the dead;
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

Lord, by Your wounds on Calvary,
From death’s dread sting Your servants free,
That we may live eternally.
Alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory!
That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler	Gloria Aouelle	Roxanna Hauschild	Claire Heger
Leonard “Mac” McCameron	Roland Merrill	Rickey Ramseur	
Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	Angie Longoria (Kids for Christ Parent)	Julianna Longoria (Kids for Christ Disciple)	Samantha Skaggs (Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)
John & Jere Swoboda (Prior FPC Members)	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)		

**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 Note

The mosaic mural on the Bulletin cover depicts Jesus’ post-resurrection appearance to his disciples as they gathered in fear in a locked house. The mural is entitled, “Jesus Shows Himself to Thomas” (John 20:27), but in truth Jesus showed his wounds to all his disciples (John 20:20), not just Thomas. Do we see, with our hearts, the Risen Lord? As Jesus said to Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe” (John 20:29). Surely, Jesus had each of us in mind when he spoke these words.

This mosaic mural is one of seven by artists Rowan LeCompte (1925-2014) and his wife, Irene LeCompte (1926-1970), located in the Resurrection Chapel at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

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
361.575.2441
info@fpcofvictoria.org