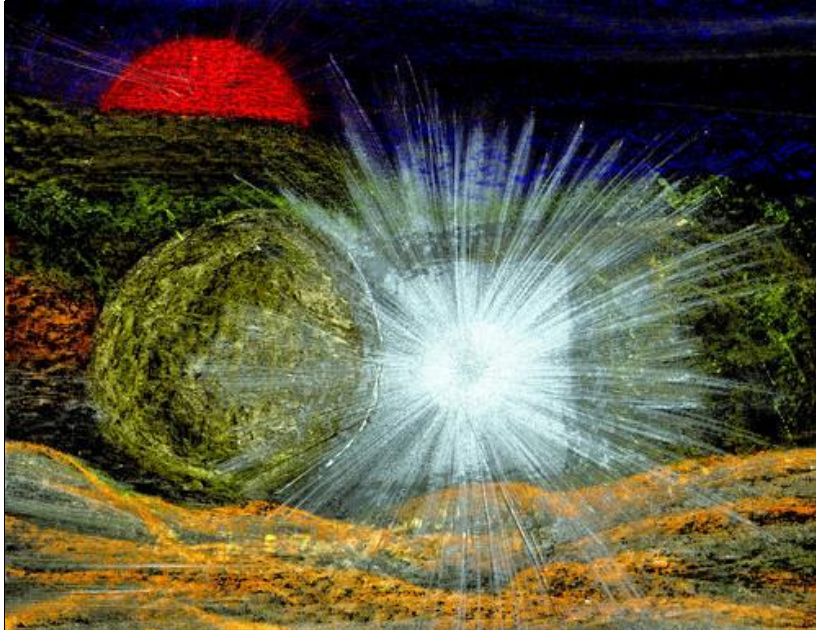


# SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

APRIL 4, 2021

## RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER SUNDAY



11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

OPENING VOLUNTARY

PRELUDE IN C MAJOR, BWV 547  
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

J. S. BACH

I SAW THE CROSS OF JESUS  
WESLEY MASON, VIOLIN

ARR. GARY LANIER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

WONDROUS LOVE  
ZACH AND MIKAYLA DODGE

TRADITIONAL

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF THE DAY

FROM ISAIAH 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of Hosts will make a feast for all people,

**A feast of rich food and well-aged wines –**

**rich food filled with marrow and well-aged wines strained clear.**

For the Lord will destroy the shroud that is cast over all people, the sheet that is spread over all nations –

**For the Lord will swallow up death forever!**

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,

**And the disgrace of God's people will be taken away from the earth – for the Lord has spoken!**

It will be said on that day, "This is our God, the One for whom we have waited  
in order that we might be saved."

**Therefore, let us be glad and rejoice in the salvation of our God!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Let us worship God. Let us pray together:

**We rejoice, O God, in the glorious good news of the resurrection. Show us our salvation in the very depths of our being this day so that we will never be quite the same again. Roll away the stones that keep us from living fully as you intend as followers of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,  
 our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,  
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.  
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.  
 who did once up - on the cross,  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,  
 suf - fer to re - deem our loss.  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave you shattered the darkest powers of the cosmos. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that so often lead to sin and death. We overlook the poor and the hungry. We pass by those who mourn. We ignore the cries of the oppressed and are indifferent to calls for peace. We care little for the weak and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust in your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## \* HUMMED RESPONSE #582

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

"GLORY TO GOD"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news<sup>1</sup> that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,<sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.<sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.<sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.<sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

ANTHEM

EASTER ALLELUIA MEDLEY  
WESLEY MASON, VIOLIN

ARR. GARY LANIER

SECOND READING

MARK 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.<sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.<sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?”<sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.<sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.<sup>6</sup> But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.<sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”<sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SERMON

“THEY WERE AFRAID”

REV. DR. WALT PETERS

\* HYMN #248

CHRIST IS RISEN! SHOUT HOSANNA!

“HYMN TO JOY”

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.  
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: “Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!”



Heal - ing leaves of grace a-bound-ing bring a taste of love un-known.  
 Je - sus is our strong com-pan-ion. Joy and peace shall nev-er end.  
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho-san - na ev - ery - one!

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(At the conclusion of each petition the leader will say, "Living God..."  
 and the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer.")*

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*(The offering is to be placed in the dish at the rear of the sanctuary. We are not passing the plate at this time)*

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**

WHEN YOU BELIEVE FROM 'THE PRINCE OF EGYPT'  
 WESLEY MASON, VIOLIN

ARR. STEPHEN DECESARE

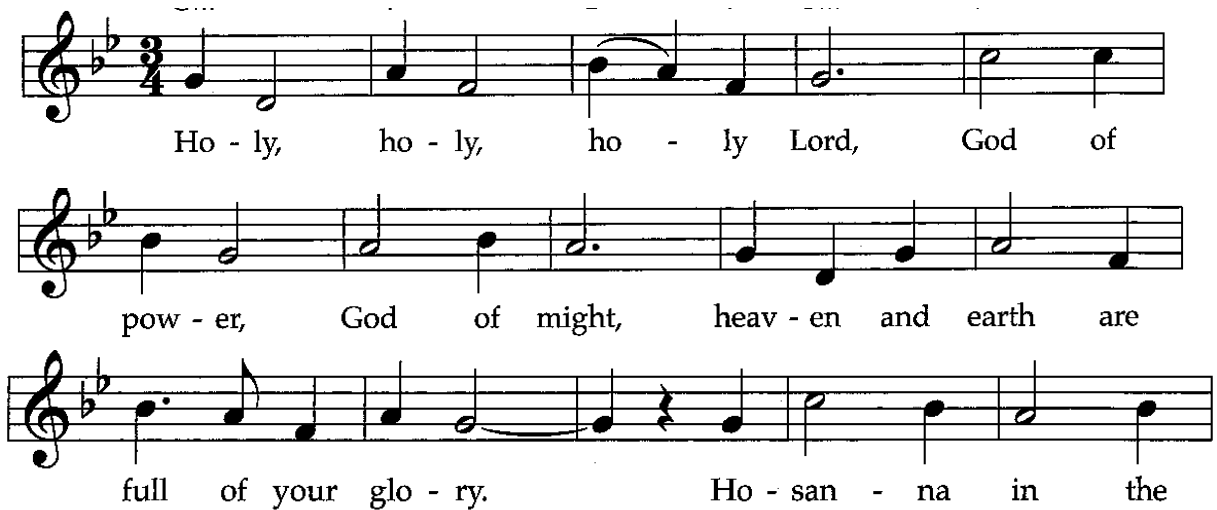
**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

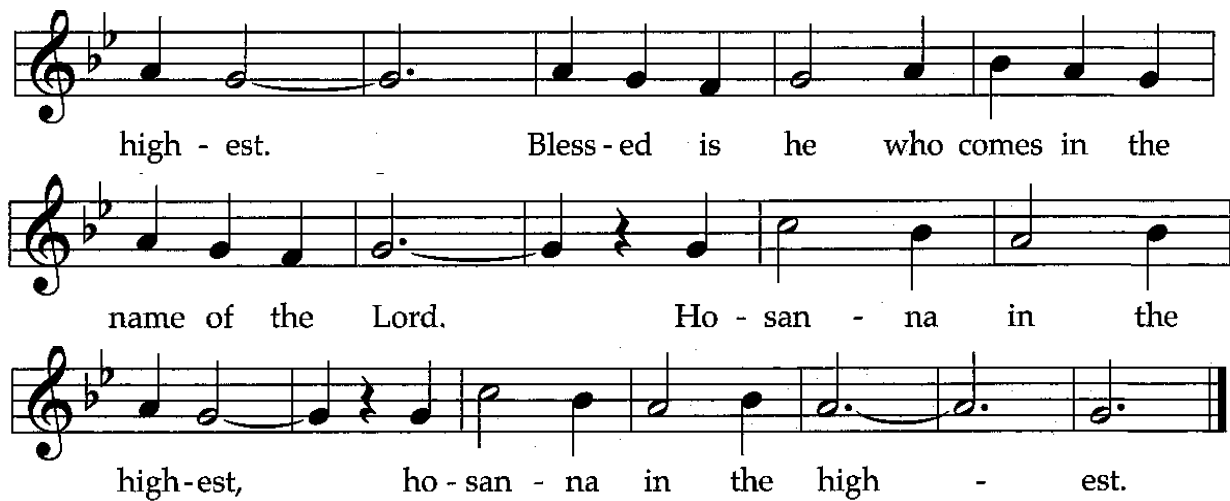
**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
 And also with you.  
 Lift up your hearts.  
 We lift them to the Lord.  
 Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.  
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

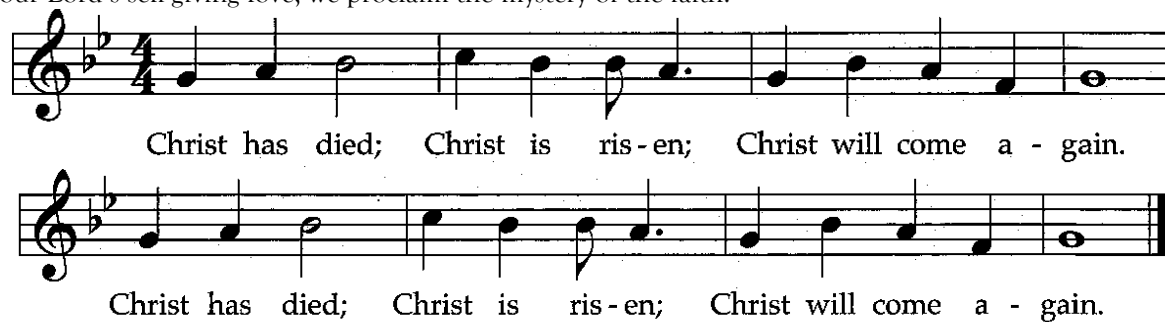
In every time, in every season, and in every age, O God, it is good and faithful that we give you thanks, for your mercy is sure and your steadfast love endures forever. In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus, who sets us free from death and leads to life eternal. And so, with all creation, with all the needy and hungry ones, with all those who have enough and plenty, with creatures large and small, with the angels above and with humanity below, with sun and moon and stars, and with the saints of every age, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn





high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 heal and teach, to confound the haughty, to confuse the deceivers, to challenge the wrong-hearted, and in all things, to give hope to those who long for peace. Remembering our Lord's self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.  
Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life. You give us words when we have none; you fill us with vision when we cannot see the way ahead; 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 grant that we may 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.**

As Jesus taught us, let us pray for God's rule on this earth:

#### 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 our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

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. Now send us forth from this place by the power of your Spirit to tell this good news to the world. As we have been nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give glory to the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\* HYMN #240

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS

"ALLELUIA NO. 1"

*Descant*

*Kerain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name.

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.  
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.  
 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

*W Kerain*

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #240

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! GIVE THANKS (Refrain only)

"ALLELUIA NO. 1"

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA FROM SYMPHONIE NO. 5  
 BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

CHARLES MARIE WIDOR

\* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, if you are able, please stand.  
 Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in bold.

## This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher.....Rev. Dr. Walt Peters  
 Liturgist.....Robert Courtney  
 Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr  
 Musicians.....Wesley Mason, Violin; Zach and Mikayla Dodge, Vocalist  
 Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
 Ushers.....Buck and Jane Belt

## Worship & Music Notes

Today we welcome back our guest preacher, the Rev. Walt Peters, to the pulpit. He served congregations in Macon, GA; Tampa, FL, and Augusta, GA, before coming to First Presbyterian in Westminster in 1999, being honorably retired by Baltimore Presbytery in October of 2013. In retirement he is an active participant in the Wild Wild West Ministry Group. He and his wife Rebecca reside in Hagerstown. They have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Next Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, we will welcome back Rev. Rebecca Vardiman as our guest preacher for Holy Humor Sunday and David Stickler will serve as liturgist. Holy Humor Sunday is celebrating God's big joke on the Devil. "Jesus has returned!" We will welcome back Rev. Rebecca Vardiman as our guest preacher. Please come to church ready to celebrate! You are welcome to wear funny hats, outlandish clothes, silly shoes, etc..

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** Please contact Michael Levitas or the church office if you would like to sponsor flowers for a special occasion like a birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of someone. You may specify live or silk flowers. Silk flower money will be directed to the Special Ministries Fund. We have flower openings for 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

**OFFERING PLATES:** Offering plates are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please deposit your gifts, offerings, and tithes into the plate as you enter or exit the sanctuary.

**WESTERN MD HEALTH SYSTEM PRAYER VIGIL:** Our congregation has been invited to join the community in a prayer vigil this evening at 8:00 PM at Western MD Health System. You are invited to surround the hospital in your vehicles and lift up thanks to the Lord for the decrease in covid-19 cases and also pray for nurses, doctors and staff of the hospital, as well as, the community.

## Church Office Hours

Monday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Tuesday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Thursday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Friday 8:30 AM- 1:00 PM

Please note that on Fridays when the office closes at 1:00 PM, Brittany is still available by phone and email until 4:30 PM.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED:** Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> in recognition of Easter.

## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

**RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY**

| <b>ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:</b>   | <b>as of March 28, 2021</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total 2021 Pledges Promised          | \$192,124.00                |
| Pre-paid pledges                     | \$ 400.00                   |
| <u>2021 Pledge Balance Promised</u>  | <u>\$191,724.00</u>         |
| Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date | \$44,996.00                 |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$48,906.00                 |
| Over/(Under)                         | \$(3,910.00)                |

## MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & LAURA FISCUS

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering:** Today, we have the opportunity to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Approximately 1/3 of what we donate this morning goes to support the Presbyterian Hunger Program. This program strives to walk with people in moving towards sustainable choices that restore and protect all of God's children and creation. As people of faith we seek to feed the hungry, especially during the pandemic. We also strive to serve and preserve God's world. **Envelopes can be found in the pews this morning. Please consider giving generously to this offering.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

## VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a community grounded in the good news of God's love in Christ where all of God's children are:

- Welcomed and cherished
- Called to worship, learn and grow together in faith, and
- Sent to share God's love and justice with a broken and hurting world.

Adopted by the Session on September 17, 2015