



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God
April 24, 2022
The Second Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Because You Live, O Christ (Hymn 105)

Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

In life, in death, and in life beyond death,

the Risen Christ is Lord.

In success and discouragement, in fear and in hope,

the Risen Christ is Lord.

Of the poor and broken, of the sinner and the sinned against,

the Risen Christ is Lord.

In Church and community, in our hearts and our homes,

the Risen Christ is Lord, and so we gather to worship in his name.

*HYMN 464, V.1-3

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, in raising Jesus from the dead, you showed us your power to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives. In his resurrection, Jesus promised to be with us everywhere and always. Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about your promises. We doubt the promise of resurrection for our own lives. Upheaval and anxiety eat away at our peace. Forgive us when we struggle to trust your goodness and your steadfast love for us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free from sin and sorrow. In Jesus Christ, God offers us the gift of peace. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts this day.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 5:27-32

SERMON

Witnesses

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

*HYMN 371, V. 1-4

Lift High the Cross

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.
Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us life eternally.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In this season of Easter, we celebrate God's most precious gift to us in Christ's dying and rising. As we present our offering today, let us give with thankful hearts, trusting that God can do amazing things through the gifts we offer in Jesus' name.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, along with our gifts we offer you our thanks for your steadfast love, our foundation when things around us seem uncertain. Bless these gifts and the ministry of our congregation. May what we offer spread the blessings we know to others, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,
your steadfast love endures forever.

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 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.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 118, V.1-3

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.

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 of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen,
Our joy that hath no end.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain (Hymn 114)

Henkelmann

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Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Peter Becker, Liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed, Luke McGloughlin

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Acts 5:27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."