



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God  
May 7, 2023

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*\*Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice

Elmore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gather us, O God.

**There is room for us all.**

Dwell with us, O God.

**Show us the way.**

Guide us, O God.

**We give thanks and praise for Christ as our way, truth and life.**

\*HYMN 485 (V.1-2)

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!

So loved He the world the He gave us His Son,

Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,

And opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

Let the people rejoice!

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You send us, God of the Great Commission, but we hedge and hesitate. Forgive our fear and our excuses. We are witnesses of your grace and glory but allow others to silence our praise. We imprison ourselves with doubt and shame and fail to shine your light for all to see. Forgive our fears. Free our testimony.**

*Silent prayer*

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ has transformed us. Christ has renewed us. Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Amen.**

\*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

John 14:1-14

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Alexandra Hendrickson

Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
Be not afraid, I've called you by name.  
My love for you is everlasting,  
My love for you shall have no end.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will surround you.  
When you pass through the floods,  
They will not sweep o'er.  
When you walk through the fire,  
You will not be consumed.  
You are my child, you are so precious to me.

Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
Be not afraid, I've called your name.  
My love for you is everlasting,  
My love for you shall have no end.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will surround you.  
When you pass through the floods,  
They will not sweep o'er.  
When you walk through the fire,  
You will not be consumed.  
You are my child, you are so precious to me.

You are my child, and I'll love you always.  
Just hold my hand, and I'll lead you home.  
When you feel lost, always remember:  
I am right here, just call out my name.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will surround you.  
When you pass through the floods,  
They will not sweep o'er.  
When you walk through the fire,  
You will not be consumed.  
You are my child, you are so precious to me.

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

*Please leave your offering in the box at the front of the sanctuary or make your gifts online or via mail.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. 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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ's table is wide, and his welcome is for all. Jesus dined with sinners and saints, with farmhands and foreigners, with disciples and doubters, with children and cherished friends, with the outcast and the outspoken, with lepers and loved ones.

And just as he ate at others' tables, when Christ set his banquet table, he welcomed us all too. As we gather around Christ's table, we are united with all of God's beloved across the world through the love and grace made known in the bread broken and cup passed. So come to the table where we witness Christ's love and peace for all.

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

With fresh eyes and renewed hope, we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly chorus of all the saints to sing:

**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, hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER

...Great is the mystery of faith:

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*The bread and juice are distributed together and can be enjoyed immediately.*

## 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 417 (V.1-4)

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of the Lord and precious,  
Binding all the church in one;  
Holy Zion's help forever,  
And our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call You,  
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;  
With Your wonted loving-kindness  
Hear Your people as they pray,  
And Your fullest benediction  
Shed within its walls away.

Here bestow on all Your servants  
What they ask of You to gain,  
What they gain from You forever  
With the blessed to retain,  
And hereafter in Your glory  
Evermore with You to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father,  
Laud and honor to the Son,  
Laud and honor to the Spirit,  
Ever three and ever one;  
One in might and one in glory  
While unending ages run.

\*BENEDICTION

Christ does not give to us as the world gives. We leave church today with Christ's peace to have, to hold, to share with others. Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not be afraid. Christ is with us in all things.

May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever.

**Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Look Up, My Soul, To Christ Thy Joy

Elmore

~\*~\*~

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Alexandra Hendrickson, Guest Preacher

Bud Martin, Guest Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Ellis Finger, Liturgist

Ruthann Arras and Shirley Heinsohn, Communion Servers

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

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## **John 14:1-14**

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.’