

<https://youtu.be/1mqEk3THYak>

Order of Worship, First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 11, 2021

2nd Sunday of Easter

Announcements

Prelude

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

arr. Larson

For Prayer and Reflection:

Lord of resurrection and new life, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive and respond to your call to be your disciples in all that we say, do, and think. Amen.

Call to Worship

We have come to worship God, the living God,

Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.

All glory to God!

Opening Prayer

****Song of Praise***

“Christ Is Risen He Is Risen Indeed”

Getty/Getty/Cash

How can it be, the One who died,
Has borne our sin through sacrifice
To conquer every sting of death?
Sing, sing hallelujah.

For joy awakes as dawning light
When Christ’s disciples lift their eyes.
Alive He stands, their Friend and King;
Christ, Christ He is risen.

Chorus: Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!
Oh, sing hallelujah.
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed;
Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.

Where doubt and darkness once had been,
They saw Him and their hearts believed.
But blessed are those who have not seen,
Yet, sing hallelujah.

Once bound by fear now bold in faith,
They preached the truth and power of grace.
And pouring out their lives they gained
Life, life everlasting. (Chorus)

The power that raised Him from the grave
Now works in us to powerfully save.
He frees our hearts to live His grace;
Go tell of His goodness. (Chorus)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, it hasn't been easy for us to be disciples or witnesses to your love. We get caught in traps of anger, impatience, and fear. Our words and spirits become cynical and jaded. Yet, at all times, you are with us, guiding and guarding us. Through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, we have all we need to be your witnesses. Forgive us when we forget that! Forgive us when we act as though you don't care about us or about this world. Lift us up when we have fallen; guide our hearts when we speak so that we may bring hope, understanding, and reconciliation into the world in a powerful way. May it be so.

Silent Confession (Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

****Gloria Patri*** (#734)

“Glory Be to the Father”

Greatorex

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.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Special music

“The Twenty Third Psalm”

Malotte

Second Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-11

Sermon

“A Blank Blue Sky”

****Hymn of Response #464***

“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

St. Leonards

May the mind of Christ my Savior,
Live in me from day to day,
By his love and power controlling
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through his power.

May the peace of God, my Father,
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me,
As the waters fill the sea,
Him exalting, self abasing--
This is victory.

May I run the race before me,
Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus
As I onward go.

***Affirmation of Faith**

++The Westminster Confession of Faith, *selections from Chapter 18*

Good works are only such as God commanded in his holy Word . . . These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith and by them believers manifest their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, edify their brethren, adorn the profession of the gospel, stop the mouths of the adversaries, and glorify God, whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus . . . Their ability to do good works is wholly from the Spirit of Christ . . . and they ought to be diligent in stirring up the grace of God that is in them. Then God, looking upon them in his Son, is pleased to accept and reward that which is sincere.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and 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.

***Sending Hymn #308**

“This Joyful Eastertide” vv. 1,2

Vruechten

This joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sadness!
Our Lord, the crucified,
Has filled our hearts with gladness.

Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith would be in vain.
But now has Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen,
But now has Christ arisen!

My being shall rejoice secure
Within God's keeping,
Until the trumpet voice
Awake us... [Refrain]

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

arr. Wagner

**Please be seated while the postlude plays and enjoy the opportunity to reflect on how God is calling you to respond to his word. When the postlude concludes, we invite you to observe social distancing as you exit the sanctuary and to visit with one another outdoors at your leisure.*

++ The Westminster Confession was produced by the Westminster Assembly in the mid-1600's in an effort to reform the worship, doctrine and church government of the Church of England. The Westminster Confession clarified, outlined, and systematized the teachings of the Reformation and remains one of the PC (USA)'s confessional statements.

Leaders in worship:

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells
Liturgists: Confirmand Thomas Blair & Mentor Deb Stant
Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby
Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel
Special Music: Gabe Vander Broek
Musician: Linda Longfield

“Jesus I Never Knew” Daily Scripture Readings:

Day 1	Mark 9:14-29
Day 2	Matthew 9:18-26
Day 3	Matthew 9:27-34
Day 4	John 11:1-37
Day 5	John 11: 38-53

“Come Thou Almighty King”
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