

<https://youtu.be/ufyStCFReKo>

***Order of Worship, First Presbyterian Church***

Sunday, April 18, 2021

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

***Announcements***

***Prelude***

“O Could I Speak”

*arr. Shackley*

***For Prayer and Reflection:***

*Loving God, we want to worship you with all our soul and mind. Fill us today with awareness of your Holy Spirit who is present with us. Amen.*

***Call to Worship***

God has cast seeds of love and hope upon us.

**May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of love and hope.**

Let us praise God who is so generous with us.

**Let us praise God who plants seeds of love and hope.**

**Let us worship God who nourishes all planted seeds.**

***Opening Prayer***

***\*Hymn of Praise #507***

“A Mighty Fortress is our God”

*Ein' Feste Burg*

A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great,  
and, armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim,

we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo, his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
thro' him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever.

### ***Call to Confession***

#### ***Prayer of Confession***

**Merciful God, for the things we have done or failed to do that we regret, forgive us; for all the times we have acted without love, forgive us; for all the times we have reacted without thought, forgive us; for all the times we have withdrawn care, forgive us; for all the times we have failed to forgive, forgive us. For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes, forgive us. God of all time, forgive us and help us to lay down our burden of regret.**

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

#### ***Declaration of Forgiveness***

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

“Glory Be to the Father”

*Greathorex*

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***

#### ***Scripture Reading***

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23, 36b-43

#### ***Sermon***

“Wheat Among the Weeds”

#### ***Special music***

“The Sower’s Song”

*Peterson/Shiv*

#### ***\*Affirmation of Faith***

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Response**

“Days of Elijah”

Mark

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the word of the Lord  
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses  
Righteousness being restored

And though these are the days of great trial  
Of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

Refrain: Behold He comes, riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call  
Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee  
For out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

These are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of Your servant, David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise

And these are the days of the harvest  
The fields they are white in Your world  
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard  
Declaring the Word of the Lord (Refrain)

There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah! (2x)

(Refrain)

***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 #291**

“Alleluia No. 1” vv. 1,2

Fishel

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
He is the King of creation. (Refrain)

Spread the good news o'er all the earth.  
Jesus has died and has risen. (Refrain)

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

“Allegro”

arr. Norris

*\*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.*

***Leaders in worship:***

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells  
Liturgist: John Dillman  
Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby  
Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel  
Special Music: Kristen Eby, Jill Klinebriel  
Musician: John Eby, Linda Longfield

***“Jesus I Never Knew” Daily Scripture Readings:***

Day 1	Matthew 13:1-23
Day 2	Matthew 13:31-35; 44-46
Day 3	Matthew 13:47-52
Day 4	Matthew 5:13-16
Day 5	Matthew 10:5-42

“O Could I Speak”  
Music: Mozart/Ariel; arr. Shackley  
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“Glory Be to the Father”  
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“The Sower’s Song”  
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“Days of Elijah”  
Words/Music: Mark  
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“Allegro”  
Music: Vivaldi; arr. Norris  
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“Alleluia No. 1”  
Words/Music: Fishel  
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