

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR MARCH 31, 2024

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *O Worship the King* arr. Lloyd Larson;
attr. to Johann M. Haydn

INTROIT 251 *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* MFURAHINI HALELUYA

Gathering Around The Word

***CALL TO WORSHIP** from Ps. 118:24

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***HYMN 232** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**All-knowing, all-powerful God,
we confess that, even on this most holy day,
we are unable to believe in the victory over death
shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life
but also for faith, hope, and love.
Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors
and your stunning presence throughout the ages,
we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us,
that in every way our work and prayer will
make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON from Ps. 118:14, 17

By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. The rejected cornerstone has become your strength and your song. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, who lives and reigns as Mother of us all, now and forever.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

We invite you to share the peace of Christ with others.

***RESPONSE 581** 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.**

**for portions marked with an asterisk, you're invited to rise in body or spirit*

Listening To the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING JEREMIAH 31:1-6
(The scripture readings can be found on the back of the bulletin)

ANTHEM *Easter Carol*

***SECOND READING** JOHN 20:1-18

SERMON "Great Expectations" Rev. Dr. Tim Noel

Responding to the Word

***HYMN 250** *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* PROMISE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** A NEW CREED (UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA)

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

SHARING OUR PRAYERS See prayer concerns list, back page

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER page 35 in hymnal

GIVING BACK TO GOD'S KINGDOM from John 12:24

*With compassion for our needs, the Risen One stands beside us,
calling our names. Let us, with that same mercy,
bring forth tithes and offerings to relieve the suffering of this world
and to proclaim far and wide the good news of resurrection life.*

OFFERTORY *Whiter than Snow* comp. Fischer
arr. M. Sherrill Kelsey

TEN CENTS A MEAL OFFERING
*(Any loose change or bills placed in the baskets as they are passed
will go toward feeding those in need)*

***THE DOXOLOGY 606**
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
God Sends Us Forth
***HYMN 248** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* HYMN TO JOY

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

***BLESSING**
HYMN 251 *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* (refrain) MFURAHINI
HALELUYA

POSTLUDE

Visiting today? Welcome!

Please tell us a little about yourself!
You can scan this QR code with your
smartphone to fill out our online form.
We would love to get to know you better!



This Week

Sun., March 31 @ 7:30am - Sunrise Service at Somerset Cemetery

Sun., March 31 @ 8:00am - Pancake Breakfast

Sun., March 31 @ 11:00am - Easter Worship

Mon., April 1 - Mon., April 8 - Church Office Closed
(for timely matters call 606-875-3474)

Wed., April 3 @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice

Thur., April 4 @ 4:00pm - Spiritual Formation Meeting

Thur., April 4 @ 5:45pm - Centering Prayer

Fri., April 5 @ 7:30am - Men's Breakfast

Worship Assistants Next Week

Liturgist.....Zack Vaught
Ushers.....Paula Burlew & Mary Jones
Audio.....Mary Beth Waller
Video.....Jon Burlew
Coffee Plus.....Laura Wright

First Presbyterian Church

March 31st, 2024

Easter Sunday



He is Risen, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=58028> [retrieved March 27, 2024]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/apmethodist/4354910684> - CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

People of God, Welcome Home!

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you.

We welcome you to worship, and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.



Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing

Georgia Chrisman, Todd Chrisman's mother; Lynn Cain; Ed & Joyce Mick; Barbie Cooper; Autumn Brock's mom, Marie; Jennifer Williams; Glenda Wilson; Pat Carpenter; Bill House; Leslie Phillips

Current Giving

	Rec'd month of Feb.	Needed Monthly	Received YTD	Needed YTD
Pledged Offering	\$8,563	\$11,985	\$18,478	\$23,971
Non-Pledged	\$5,103	\$3,289	\$9,339	\$6,577

Blessing Box Attendant

This Week.....Laura Kamperman
Next Week.....Marshall Judy

Assisting In Worship Today

Ministers.....Every Member
Liturgist.....Susie Lackey
Ushers.....George Joplin & Marty Whitson
Audio.....Paul Guffey
Video.....Sue Guffey
Pancake Breakfast.....Men of the church
Director of Music.....Theresa Jean Kibby
Piano & Organ.....Debby McDonald
Interim Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Tim Noel

Deacons:

Paula Burlew	Eileen Stockham	Carol Prater
Cindy Fountain	Mary Beth Waller	Sue Guffey
Marshall Judy	Marci Randall	

Elders:

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>
Charles Leveridge	Sharon Mandt	Jo Salmon
Zack Vaught	Perry Waller	Laura Wright
John Wright		

First Reading—Jeremiah 31:1-6

¹At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

²Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merry-makers. ⁵Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit. ⁶For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God."

Second Reading—John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, ¹²and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Scripture verses taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition