

EASTER SUNDAY

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Easter Sunday | April 17, 2022 | 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Services

GATHERING

EASTER PROCLAMATION (*responsive*)

Pastors

In life and in death, in life beyond death, Christ is risen from the grave.

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

On the loose and beyond our control, Christ is risen!

Alleluia! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sarah Chancellor-Watson

One Great Hour of Sharing

VOLUNTARY

“Trumpet Tune”
Alex Mayon, trumpet

German

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

8:30 Hans Jonassen | 10:30 Ken Kneipp

They arrived with flowers, shuffling through as the dawn snuffed out the last candles of the night. Their faces betrayed their belief that yesterday would always be better than tomorrow, despite what he said. So when they passed the crouched figure at the edge of the road, they thought little of him, scarcely seeing his form through their tears. Had they looked even a little, they would have seen a man letting grain fall through his fingers, dropping to the earth to die and yet to rise again.

Jesus Christ, we greet you! Your hands still have holes in them, your feet are wet from the dew; and with the memory of our names undimmed by three days of death you meet us, risen from the grave.

We fail to understand how; we puzzle at the reason why. But you have come, not to answer our questions, but to show us your face.

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord our God, we stare into the mystery of Easter and do not know what to do. We cannot add to it or explain it or master it, we can only receive it as a gift, that Jesus lives and that you have triumphed over death. In this service of worship, enable us to surrender ourselves to your will and purpose. Make our hearts burn within us with the news of Christ's resurrection, and may we leave this place, not the same, but ready to offer others the joy and gratitude that belong to disciples of Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

†*HYMN 245

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (arr. Hopson)
Alex Mayon, trumpet; Matthew Swihart, trumpet;
Liam Hanna, horn, William Hess, trombone, James Atwood, timpani

LLANFAIR

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O Lord our God, in the beginning, early in the morning, you made life in all its beauty and messiness, and gave birth to all that we know. Forgive us for treating our lives as our own creation to do with as we please.

Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God; and you shouldered and suffered the cross. Forgive us for wanting a resurrection that looks for a detour around your suffering and crucifixion.

Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you came back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and destroyed you. Forgive us for our paralysis as we try to fit the miracle of your resurrection into a form we can explain, comprehend, and attain through reason.

Early in the morning, you have gathered your church on earth and heaven to celebrate your life, death, and resurrection. We pray now that you will bring resurrection in us where we are worn and tired, new love where we have turned hard-hearted, forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded, and Easter joy and freedom where we have chosen to remain in tombs of our own selfish impulses.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be through the crucified and risen Lord who is alive and on the loose in this world. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

KYRIE *Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Blackmon

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Response of Praise: Hymn 250 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” (*verse 3*)

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;

In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory.

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING (*response: Thanks be to God.*)

Isaiah 65:17-25

† MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN (*10:30 service only*)

Jim Rumsfeld

SERMON

“A Hot Mess”

Chris Currie

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*responsive, from “The Presbyterian Study Catechism”*)

What do you affirm when you say that ‘on the third day he rose again from the dead?’

Our Lord could not be held by the power of death. Having died on the cross, he appeared to his followers, and revealed himself to them as the Lord and Savior of the world.

What do you mean when you speak of the ‘resurrection of the body?’

Because Christ lives, we will live also. Death is not the end of human life. The whole person, body and soul, will be raised from death to eternal life with God.

*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

GLORIA PATRI

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Hymnal, p. 35*)

THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Easter” from Five Mystical Songs

Vaughan Williams

Tyler Smith, tenor; The Chancel Choir

*Doxology, Hymn 606

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDRETH

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*HYMN 233

“The Day of Resurrection!”

LANCASHIRE

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

“Alleluia” (excerpt from *Christmas Cantata*)

Pinkham

*VOLUNTARY

“Toccata” from *Symphonie V*

Widor

IN TODAY’S WORSHIP

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Bloomfield. In 1930, Mrs. Bloomfield, with a single gift, fully funded the construction of our Sanctuary.

TODAY’S USHERS are Mayson Buffington, Miriam Hollar, Thomas Schulingkamp, Wesley Simon, Jeff Young (captain), Nancy Jane and Charlie Carson, Noah Hardie, Louise Schaefer, Richard Seelman and Laurie Young.

OFFERING: The three programs supported by ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work to serve individuals and communities in need. To contribute, please use the envelopes in your pews to enclose cash or checks (made out to “SCAPC”) and place in the offering plate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE that the church office will be closed tomorrow, April 18.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, SOREN KIERKEGAARD’S FEAR AND TREMBLING: Stewart Peck will lead three classes, April 24 – May 8, exploring Soren Kierkegaard’s Fear and Trembling, which involves the biblical story of the Knight of Faith, Abraham, and the sacrifice of Isaac. Abraham’s existential dilemma arose from being asked to sacrifice his son in obedience to God. 9:30-10:15 a.m. | Land Building Lakeside Room and Zoom

MCMILLAN SOCIETY TOUR & LUNCH FOR AGES 55+: John Geiser will lead a tour of the SCAPC property and our interesting church history on Saturday, May 14 at 10:30 a.m. A gourmet catered lunch by Hatch + Harvest will follow. To make your lunch reservation (\$20/each), go to scapc.org/mcmillan. Your reservation is finalized when your check is received.

TOILETRIES FOR RAINTREE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: For the month of April, PW are collecting regular size toiletries: towels, wash cloths, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and lotion for the Raintree Children & Family Services community. The baskets for donations are inside the State Street entrance doors to the church. You may also write a check to Presbyterian Women with a notation ‘Raintree’ and mail it to the church, 1545 State St., NOLA 70118 or leave the check in the tray marked ‘Presbyterian Women’ on the table outside the doors to the church office on the second floor.

PW RETREAT, AFTERNOON, SUNDAY, MAY 15 - AFTERNOON, MONDAY, MAY 16: If you haven’t already, now is the time to register for our Presbyterian Women’s Retreat on its new dates (May 15-16) at the Solomon Conference Center in Loranger, LA! Our theme this year is “The Courage to Claim Your Voice”, led by Lori Archer Raible, Pastor of Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. We are pleased to bring back all of our retreat traditions: worship, woodland walks, wine social hour, labyrinth walking, and the campfire. Our retreat coordinators are Michelle Baker, Nancy Davis and Christina Carlisle. Your registration is complete when your check is received. To learn more about our speaker and our theme, and for a registration form, you can go to our retreat page (scapc.org/pw-retreat). Blank forms can also be picked up on the table outside the church office.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Barbara Weiser on the death of her husband, as well as to family members David, April, Kurt, Angelique, Madeline, Vincenza, Arden, and Savannah Weiser, on the death of Clarence Weiser who died on April 7. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with visitation at 1:00 p.m. in the Bloomfield Room.

ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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