

The First Presbyterian Church
300 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
The Third Sunday of Easter – April 18, 2021 – 10 a.m.
Simulcast Service

PRELUDE

Abide With Us: For It Is Toward Evening

Jaromir Weinberger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Call on the name of the Lord in praise; Make known God's deeds among the nations!
Sing to God with joyful songs; tell of God's wonderful deeds!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 4

ANTHEM

We Walk By Faith

David Lasky

We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear from him who spoke as none e'er spoke; but we believe him near. We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod; but in his promise we rejoice and cry "My Lord and God!" Help then, O Lord, our unbelief and may faith abound to call you when you are near, and seek where you are found. That when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

SECOND READING

Luke 24:36b-49

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED (*unison*)

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.

OUR JOYFUL RESPONSE - TITHES & OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

HYMN 295

Go to the World!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Praise, My Soul, Your Maker

Theophil Forchhammer

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff

Dr. John B. Salveson, Minister of Music / Organist

Mrs. Wendy Matchett, Lector

Mrs. Crystal Stone, Video Technician

Choral Ensemble

*Music for this morning's service has been made possible, in part,
by Edgar and Joanne Highberger and by gifts to the Dr. Edgar S. Highberger Music Fund.*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – The Session of First Presbyterian Church has called for a **Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, April 25** in the sanctuary immediately following the end of worship. The purpose of the meeting is two-fold (1) To affirm the actions of the Session taken in lieu of holding congregational meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic including: Election of Officers, Election of At-Large Members of the CONC, Approval of Dr. Ankrum's Terms of Call and (2) Approval of the sale of property ('the gravel lot').

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Games with Rick!!! Sunday, April 18: 11 a.m.–3 p.m. - Youth Room

We've been running a D&D 5e campaign. The kids play characters and interact with the Eberron game world guided by me. The kids work together to solve problems and overcome obstacles in a fantasy world setting that blends magic and machine. They've defeated pirates, saved a town by rescuing a dragon, and become movie stars. If cooperative storytelling sounds like fun to you then this may be your scene.

Confirmation 2021 – Sunday, April 25 1 p.m. – Dining Room

Confirmation Classes have been set for any of our members who are in the Seventh or Eighth Grades this year. (If you're in the Ninth Grade and missed last year's class and would like to join the church, please let us know and we'll add you to the list.) Dr. Ankrum leads this class.

ADULT EDUCATION IN APRIL

THRU THE BIBLE CLASS – Join us on Monday, April 26 at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room for our discussion of the Old Testament book: Ezekiel.

LAST TUESDAY BOOK CLUB ... We will gather in our Dining Room of the church building on Tuesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. for a discussion of *The Shawl*, a novella by Cynthia Ozick. (**This is a change from April First News**)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY --- We meet every Wednesday morning in our Dining Room at 8 a.m. for an hour-long discussion of the scriptures. Coffee is provided, but please bring a breakfast with you if you wish. We are currently studying the Book of Genesis.

Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up - Saturday, April 24 – 8:30 a.m. Our springtime highway clean-up will be on Saturday, April 24. The rain date is Saturday, May 1. Meet in the parking lot at Lynch Field across from the Dairy Queen on 119N at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers should be at least 14 years of age (volunteers under age 16 are asked to be accompanied by their parent/guardian). Please consider giving us some of your time to help us clean up our community. To sign-up, please respond to Steve Ross at sross@elliott-turbo.com.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

Go to the World!

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1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1985
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
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SINE NOMINE
 10.10.10 with alleluias.