

The First Presbyterian Church

300 South Main Street

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Easter Sunday – March 31, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Simulcast Service

PRELUDE

Celebration Fanfare

Charles Callahan

EASTER PROCLAMATION

John 20:1-18

ANTIPHON

This is the Day

Jacobus Gallus

This is the day, this is the day, the day the Lord hath made, the day the Lord hath made: we will all rejoice, rejoice, be glad in it, we will all rejoice, rejoice, be glad in it. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Do not be afraid; I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.

He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF ADORATION (*unison*)

Glory to you, O God: on this day you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life. Glory to you, O Christ: for us and for our salvation you overcame death and opened the gate to everlasting life. Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth. Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

✠**PROCESSIONAL HYMN 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

✠**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 AND THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Christ Is Alive! (Hymn 246, Stanza 5)

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER READING

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

ANTHEM

Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

Philip W. J. Stopford

Christ the Lord is ris'n again, Christ hath broken ev'ry chain. Hark, angelic voices cry, singing evermore on high, Alleluia! He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife, is our Paschal Lamb today; we too

sing for joy, and say Alleluia! He who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the cross, lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry. He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save; now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia! Thou, our Paschal Lamb is indeed, Christ, thy ransomed people feed; take our sins and guilt away: let us sing by night and day, Alleluia!

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

SERMON Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

✠**HYMN 231** Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers SUO GAN

✠**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE 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

OFFERTORY Halle, Halle, Halle *Marty Haugen*
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! O God, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of life. Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing; hallelujah, hallelujah! I am the light of the world, says the Lord. Walk in the light of life. All who follow my words shall have life indeed: hallelujah, hallelujah! Now Christ is raised up from death, he will never die again. All who follow his way shall have life in him: hallelujah, hallelujah!

✠**RESPONSE** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Hymn 609)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

✠**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation
The Words of Institution
The Prayer of Blessing
The Distribution of the Elements

The Prayer following Communion (*unison*)

God of glory, fill your church with the power that flows from Christ's resurrection, that, in the midst of the sinful world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity, risen to new life with Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

✠**HYMN 485** We Know That Christ Is Raised ENGELBERG

✠**BENEDICTION**

✠**POSTLUDE** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today *Robert Hobby*
Please feel free to exit the sanctuary during the playing of the postlude, letting the melody carry you out into the world to love and serve the Lord.

✠ *Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so*

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING:

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff; Dr. William Jeffrey Jones, Minister of Music / Organist; Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Lector; Chancel Choir; Children and Youth Choir; Mr. Lee Matchett, Mr. William Markle, Mr. Steven Tribble, Mr. Elijah Crowe, Brass; Mr. Jeffrey Ruff, Mr. Caleb Crowe, Percussion; Mrs. Melissa Dalansky, Video Technician.

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.

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CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 RESURRECTION OF THE LORD / EASTER DAY

10:00 a.m. Worship -- In-Person & via Simulcast

MONDAY, APRIL 1 OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

6:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee - Refectory

7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study – Eat n' Park

12:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room

6:00 p.m. Task Force Meeting – Assembly Room

6:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee – Dining Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

5:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble – Sanctuary

6:30 p.m. Handbell Practice – Bell Room

7:30 p.m. Choir Practice – Choir Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

9:30 a.m. Worship Committee – Assembly Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 COMMUNION SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Third Floor

10:00 a.m. Worship -- In-Person & via Simulcast

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Dining Room

FIRST NEWS: The News of FPC

PRAYER LIST: Jeret Baker, Nick, Behun, Lisa Bulger, Art Caramella, Juan Carlos, George Chambers, Sandy Cole, Dan & Ginger Collier, Tracy Confer, Beverly Courtney, William Courtney, Edna Mary Cox, Kaitlyn Daniels, Diane Demorest, Lorelai Difonso, Bob Dittman, Karen Dubosky, Michael Felice, Richard Gracik, Heather H., Edgar and Joanne Highberger, Gretchen Highberger, Lucas James, Lee Jamison, Don Kemerer, Jennifer Kubit, Paige Lucas, Karen M., Marge Machesney, Kelsey Magness, George Maser, Joanne McIlhattan, Rick & Jan McNerny, Janet Metzela, Carmina Michelsen, Keenan Miller, Gretchen Nelson, John Noel, Dan P., Nancy Pallitta, Kathleen Piekut, Gerry Pricer, Jamie R., Colton Reid, Judy Rugh, Julia Saul, Barbara Sill and family, Christina Sinddorf, Nancy Skrot, Mary Smith, Bob & Nancy Stahl, Eileen Stefl, Molly Stienbiser, Crystal Stone, Scott Sucke, Isabelle Taylor, Lynda Turin, Linda & Tom Turin, Matthew J. Washil, Doug Wessling, Don Whipkey and Marsha Zoruba.

VISITING IN WORSHIP TODAY? If you are visiting in worship today or have been for a while, please sign the Visitor Card found in the pew racks and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We would love to be able to contact you and answer any questions you may have about FPC. Please take a moment to greet Dr. Ankrum at the end of the service; he would love to get to know you and welcome you to our faith community.

NURSERY OPEN DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP – Children, Birth – PreK : Drop off care is available Sunday mornings with Ms. Gali! Pack your child's drinks and snacks and drop them off for the fun! Gali is looking forward to meeting you and your children!

CHILDRENS RESOURCE TOTES First Presbyterian Church also provides a comfort room and age-appropriate worship resource totes for families with young children to use during the service. They are in the narthex, or by asking an usher for assistance.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SPONSORING A FELLOWSHIP HOUR? Provide 6 dozen baked goods **or** \$35 donation to cover the cost. Use the sign-up sheet on the Dining Room bulletin board. Your contributions and participation are greatly appreciated. Fellowship Hours are held usually on the first and third Sundays of every month in the Dining Room. Coffee is provided by the Millers of 19 Coffee. *April Dates are the 7 and 21.*

FIRST FRIDAYS: NEWS & UPDATES: If you haven't been receiving our First Fridays: News & Updates, please call Kim at the church office (724-832-0150) to verify and/or update your correct email address.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS: A DAILY DEVOTIONAL – By ten o'clock in the morning each day, Monday through Friday, Martin posts a new devotion for the day. Please join in the practice of daily devotion for such a time as this.

THE CORNERSTONE GROUP INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM ... We will be dining at Dick's Diner, 4200 William Penn Highway (Route 22), Murrysville, on April 13, at 5:30 p.m. They are under new management and have added new things to the menu! Please sign-up before April 9 by calling Sandy Beauregard (724-834-2247 or 724-331-3457) or emailing her (sandbeau1@verizon.net) to reserve your spot.



DO YOU WISH TO GIVE ONLINE? To set up your own recurring donations, either visit the church website or scan the QR code with your smart phone, or contact the church office for help. Your support of Christ's church in this place is greatly appreciated!

NEW MEMBERS CLASS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – Are you interested in joining our congregation? Please prayerfully consider your participation in the life of Christ's church and God's call upon your life. The Membership & Evangelism Committee will be offering a New Members Class on Sunday, April 14 at 11:15 a.m. in the PW Lounge. Those who wish to join the church will be received into membership during the worship service on Sunday, April 21. If you are interested, or if you have questions, please contact Dr. Ankrum at the church office.

TARTAN SUNDAY: APRIL 7 FPC has a long and storied history in this worship space and in our community. But our heritage crosses time and place as we trace our roots to Scotland centuries ago. Over the decades various congregations have marked their Scottish roots with special services and observances. As a remembrance of early Scottish Presbyterianism, special worship services known as Kirkin' o' the Tartan have spread across America. The tradition originated as a fundraiser for British war relief in 1941 and is credited for its creation to the Rev. Peter Marshall when he was the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. His time as chaplain of the U.S. Senate prior to his untimely death of a heart attack also elevated attention in this regard. Since 1954, an annual Kirkin' o' the Tartan has been held at the National Cathedral in the nation's

capital. A second observance has more recent origins. A presidential proclamation by President George W. Bush in 2008 made the date of April 6 official as National Tartan Day. We will join that celebration with a special Fellowship Hour on April 7 hosted by the Worship Committee. Our decor and refreshments will reflect our Scottish heritage, and kirk (church) members and friends are invited to don any attire indicative of their own Scottish heritage, or wear plaid in a show of camaraderie. **We look forward to sharing shortbread, scones and other Scottish delights during this special gathering following worship.**

THE DEACONS ARE COLLECTING FOR THE BLACKBURN CENTER – They are collecting new women’s pajamas and sweatsuits, in sizes Small, Medium, Large, XL, and XXL, for the local center that provides housing and other services to promote the well-being and safety of individuals impacted by violence. These pajamas and sweat suits would be provided to women presenting to local hospitals and police stations due to experiencing violence. Often, the clothes the women were wearing at the time of an assault are collected as evidence and a clean set of clothes may provide comfort. You may place your donations in the box located in the Narthex. Thank you so much for helping women in our community who have been affected by violence.

THE GATHERING – TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024: 11:30 A.M. – 1 P.M. THE BOULEVARD RESTAURANT: On the second Tuesday of each month, we reserve space at The Boulevard, a local restaurant and invite those who are available to join us for lunch, conversation and a bit of education. We’ll hear from folks that you already know and folks that you haven’t yet met. The topics will be informative and helpful to our faith, and some will be just fun and allow us to learn a bit more about each other. **This month we’ll hear from David McMunn who will talk about Lessons Learned from the Titanic Disaster. Contact the church office by noon Monday, April 8 to reserve your space.**

YOUTH GROUP NEWS @ FPC

FELLOWSHIP HOUR – APRIL 21 Please help host a coffee bar for this week’s Fellowship Hour. We’ll be in the Dining Room at 9:30 a.m. for set-up and remain afterwards to clean-up.

GAMES WITH RICK, Sunday, April 21 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the youth room. The kids play characters and interact with the Eberon game world, guided by Rick Crowe. They work together to solve problems and overcome obstacles in a fantasy world setting that blends magic and machine. We meet in the youth room.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING – Sunday, April 28, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Join us in the youth room for lunch, games and Vacation Bible School planning. Lunch will be provided.

232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing.
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers 231

1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
 2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
 3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change

as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
 Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
 all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.

Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
 Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud - dled in an up - stairs room.
 Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:

let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
 He whose word in-spired cre-a - tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
 ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

We Know That Christ Is Raised 485

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)
 F Csus C C/B^b F/A

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
 F C F G7 C

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
 Cm F B^b Gm Dm

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 4
 (Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)
 Gm F Csus C Gm F

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.
 MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904
 Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGELBERG
 10.10.10.4
 (this tune in a higher key, 641)