

the
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



April 19, 2026, 10:30 am

3rd Sunday of Easter

Welcome to worship! Led by the Holy Spirit, we glorify God, nurture the faith with each other, and witness the fullness of Christ's love in the world. Beyond the pews, we hope you will grow in faith with us on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Our service today includes the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All are invited to share in this joyful feast of the people of God as you are served in your pew. Children are welcome in the Sanctuary, with childcare available for infants through 4-year-olds in the nursery on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

✠We rise in body or spirit.

We say words in bold together.

Prelude

Aria

Helman

The Jubilate Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Moment for Micah

Doreen Vaughn

Gathering Prayer

Almighty God, as we continue on our journeys of faith, open the eyes of our hearts that we may recognize the presence of the living Christ among us. Fill us with hope in your resurrection that we may join with his disciples to proclaim: “The Lord has risen, indeed!” Amen.

Introit

Christ is Alive! (Hymn 246)

Call to Worship based on 1 Peter 1:17-23

Liturgist: Rev. Bruce Smith

Life is a journey we must travel with a deep consciousness of God.

Through Christ, we have been freed from the futility of sin.

Redemption has always been part of God’s plan for us.

Our trust and hope are in our resurrected Lord.

By God’s love we are made new in the living and enduring word of God.

May we now love one another deeply from the heart.

✠Hymn 231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

*Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.*

*Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!*

Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;

Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave.

Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.

He whose word inspired creation can’t be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen and for ever lives to challenge and to change

all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.

Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been:

evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

✠Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We turn away from systems that challenge our way of thinking, choosing to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions. Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life

and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

☩ Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

☩ Gloria (Hymn 582) *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

☩ Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: *Isaiah 51:1-6*

p. 833 in the pew Bible

Psalms 34:1-10

p. 625 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

Stay With Us

Egil Hovland

Scripture Reading: *Luke 24:13-35*

p. 109 in the pew Bible

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

On the Road

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Affirmation of Faith from *The Confession of 1967* (inclusive language text)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

✠Hymn 515

I Come with Joy

*I come with joy, a child of God forgiven loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.*

*The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.*

*Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In every time and every age, O God, it is good and faithful that we give you thanks, . . . we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life. . . join in the prayer Christ taught us together:

. . . forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors . . .

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Today communion will be served in the pews. You are welcome to consume the elements in a moment of personal prayer or hold them until all have been served so we may partake together. All the bread is gluten-free and the cups contain grape juice. These are the gifts of God for the people of God!

Prayer After Receiving

SENDING

✠Hymn 245

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

during the first verse, children are dismissed to the Ed Building for choir

“Christ the Lord is risen today!” Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!*

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude *He Reigns Triumphant* James Denton
*Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.
Join us in the Fellowship Hall for our 3rd Sunday lunch.*



Serving in Worship Today:

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey

Organist: Amy Shirk

Ushers: Linda Benn, Marjolijn Bijlefeld

Elevator Assistant: Barry Hall

Sanctuary Guild: Mike and Michelle Gibson

Videographers: Kristen Betsill, Trey Talmadge

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Christ is Alive—Text: Brian Wren; Music: Musica Sacra, c. 1778; Hope Publishing Company; ©1975, rev. 1995
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers — Text: John L Bell and Graham Maule, 1988; Music: Welsh melody;
arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011;

WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) © 1988

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me—Text: Trad. Liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, © 2008

Stay With Us—Text: Hovland; Augsburg Press; ©1999

I Come with Joy—Text: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993' Music: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace,
1977: Hope Publishing

Company; ©1971, rev. 1995,

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! —Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Music: Robert Williams, 1817, harm. David
Evans, 1927; Public Domain

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