

NEW! Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#

COF Worship, Sunday April 26, 10:30 am



Second Sunday of Easter

Earth Day Sunday

Opening Music

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

L: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,

P: the world, and those who live in it;

L: for he has founded it on the seas,

P: and established it on the rivers.

L: Let us remember God's blessings of air and water, forests and fields

P: Let us heed the call to care for God's creation!

Let us pray: **Creator God, the world you created and placed all living things is a blessed thing. May we remember as we worship**

today all of the beauty and bounty that come from the land and may we understand through our worship that we are stewards of what you have given us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, the resurrected one, who taught us to pray: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.* Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 332). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: *This is My Father's World*

This is my father's world, and to my listening ears

All nature sings and 'round me rings the music of the spheres

This is my father's world, I rest me in the thought

Of rocks and trees and skies and seas, God's hand the wonder's wrought.

This is my father's world, Oh let me ne'er forget

That though the wrong seems oft so strong God is the ruler yet.

This is my father's world; the battle is not done

Jesus who died shall be satisfied and earth and heaven be one.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

L: Just as Jesus appeared before his disciples in his resurrected form still bearing the scars of the crucifixion—this world is wounded, deeply, yet at the same time, there is resurrection and transformation.

P: We are called to care for creation in its beauty and in its wounded-ness, yet we turn from the defacement of forests and the pollution of seas and the air.

L: The resurrection of Jesus offers hope of new life, for all of creation, and for generations to come.

P: God of creation, guide us to be more attentive stewards of your works and fill us with resurrection hope, for in our brokenness we can do nothing apart from you, but only through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (moment of silence.)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare that, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!

Doxology

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. (2x)*

Special Music

Prayer for Illumination

Listen to the Word

Listen to the word that God has spoken

Listen to the one who is close at hand

Listen to the voice that began creation

Listen even if you don't understand

Scripture

I Peter 1:20-23 ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Hymn At the Font We Start Our Journey

*At the font we start our journey, in the Easter faith baptized;
Doubts and fears no longer blind us, by the light of Christ surprised.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope held out and realized.*

*At the pulpit we are fashioned by the Easter tale retold
Into witness and prophets, by the power of Christ made bold
Alleluia! Alleluia! Faith proclaimed, yet still untold.*

*At the altar we are nourished with the Easter gift of bread;
In our breaking it to pieces see the love of Christ outspread.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Life embraced, yet freely shed.*

*At the door we are commissioned, now the Easter victory's won,
To restore a world divided to the peace of Christ as one.*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter's work must still be done.

Gospel Luke 24:13-32 ¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."

²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith—Apostles' Creed

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.

Offering

Joys and Concerns—*please type into the comments box on the lower right hand sign of the screen, or speak them out loud if you're on the conference call.*

Prayers of the People

From the chaos before creation and the destruction of the flood. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**

From the devastating sacrifice and the armies of the enemy. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**
 From the vanity of wickedness and the bread that only perishes. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**
 From the power of the oppressor and the hardness of our own hearts. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**
 From the valley of dry bones and the furnace of blazing fire. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**
 From the belly of the beast and the disgrace of exile. **O Lord of life, deliver us.**

Prayers for the community are given: (moment of silence)

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Christ our Lord. Amen. Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (pp. 318-319). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Song: *Sent Out in Jesus' Name*

*Sent out in Jesus name, our hands are ready now
 To make the earth a place in which the kingdom comes (2x)*

*The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
 Into a world of love, of justice and of peace,
 The task is ours to do, to set it really free,
 O help us to obey and carry out your will.*

(Repeat)

Charge and Benediction