

Toll free call in number! (844) 855-4444, access code 654132# (conference call only)
Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live



COF Worship, April 18, 2021 11:15 am

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Gathering and Praise

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

L: Rejoice! For we know Christ is risen!

P: Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

L: Beloved, we are God's children now;

P: When Christ is revealed, we will be like him.

Let us pray: **Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together: *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. 333). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Hymn *Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show #485*

Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!

Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!

Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!

All that see and share God's love, Alleluia!

Earth to heaven and heaven to earth, Alleluia!

Tell the wonders, sing God's worth, Alleluia!

Age to age and shore to shore, Alleluia!

Praise God, praise forevermore, Alleluia!

Praise the Lord, great mercies trace, Alleluia!

Praise this providence and grace, Alleluia!

All that God for us has done, Alleluia!

All God sends us through the son, Alleluia!

Call to Confession

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

(moment of silence.) Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p.57, 59) Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p.62). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Response of Praise *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks (refrain only)*

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

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 22). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

First Reading 1 John 3:1-7 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Hymn *Christ is Risen*

*Christ is risen, Christ is living, dry your tears, be unafraid!
Death and darkness could not hold him, nor the tomb where he was laid.
Do not look among the dead for one who lives forevermore;
Tell the world that Christ is risen, make it known he goes before.*

If the Lord had never risen, we'd have nothing to believe.

*But his promise can be trusted: “you will live because I live.”
As we share the death of Adam, so in Christ we live again.
Death has lost its sting and terror, Christ the Lord has come to reign.*

*Death has lost its old dominion, let the world rejoice and shout!
Christ the firstborn of the living, gives us life and leads us out.
Let us thank our God who causes hope to spring up from the ground.
Christ is risen, Christ is giving life eternal, life profound.*

Gospel Reading Luke 24:36-49 Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith *Apostles’ Creed (ecumenical)*

I believe in God, the father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, God’s only son, our lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering prayer *thank you to all who continue to give!*

L: The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it,

P: The world, and those who live in it.

L: With gratitude and generosity, let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 25). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People**

Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust. Hear our prayers for your church and world:

for the hungry and the overfed, **may we have enough;**

for the mourners and the mockers, **may we laugh together;**

for the victims and the oppressors, **may we share power wisely;**

for the peacemakers and the warmongers, **may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony;**

for the silenced and the propagandists, **may we speak our own words in truth;**

for the unemployed and the overworked, **may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;**

for the troubled and the secure, **may we live together as wounded healers;**

for the homeless and the pampered, **may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;**

for the vibrant and the dying, **may we all die to sin and live to love.**

for those from our community, mentioned here today...and those we remember quietly...

(moment of quiet reflection)

God of mercy, you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of Christ. Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 97, 117). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Going to Serve

Hymn *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

*O Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my master and my friend
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.*

*O let me feel thee near me! the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But, Jesus draw me nearer and shield my soul from sin.*

*O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passions, the murmurs of self will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control,
O speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.*

*O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
That where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
And Jesus I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow my master and my friend.*

Charge and Benediction

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