



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 24, 2022



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit Serving God’s People

You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come along and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prayer in Preparation

God of the Resurrection, you open the tomb and invite us to sing and dance in the new life you give us. In Jesus Christ, whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection, touch our wounds that they may be transformed into channels of healing for others.

Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power to forgive so that all may have new life. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Greeting and Welcome

Ministry of the Church

Leader: We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.

All: Thanks be to God!

Joys and Concerns

Leader: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

Leader: For all these people and all who are in need

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Gathering for Worship

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!

Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

All: Give praise for God's mighty deeds!

Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

Leader: Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

All: Praise God with the harp and the cello!

Leader: Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

All: Praise God with flutes and guitars!

Leader: Praise God with cymbals and drums!

All: Let everything with life and breath praise the Lord! Let us worship God.

***Hymn:** #254

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

Call to Confession

Leader: When we keep our fears and faults locked up inside us, it is hard to be healed and receive new life. So let us open ourselves to God in confession, trusting the Lord's desire to give us peace.

Prayer of Confession:

Leader: Let us pray...

**All: God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts,
when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world,
forgive us and help us to find our voice.**

**When we are afraid to forgive and to love again,
forgive us and give us the power to forgive.**

**When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority,
join with the weak to make us all strong.**

**When we are confined by our hurts,
touch us with your wounded hands and set us free.**

**When we are locked behind our doubts and fears,
pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. As God's own forgiven people, go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

Giving of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response:** #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Children's Sermon: Butterfly Lessons (Redux)



Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reader: Living God, as the risen Christ came into the locked room of the first disciples, may your Word enter into us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we who have not seen may yet believe. **Amen.**

New Testament Lesson

John 20:19-31 (NT p.115)

Ministry of Music

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (OT p. 1)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of the Word: Creation 101

***Affirmation of Faith:** A Brief Statement of Faith (Section 3)

(Hymnal p. 37)

***Hymn:** #14

For the Beauty of the Earth

Minute for Mission: Southern Illinois Diaper Bank

Jane Swanson

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: God gives new life to all that is, including ourselves and all that sustains us. So let our tithes and offerings be our songs of praise and thanksgiving.

Offertory:

Rondeaux Excerpt from Partita 2

J. S. Bach

***#606 Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: Holy One, bless our offerings and transform them into healing for the wounded, hope for the disheartened, courage for the frightened, and faith for the embittered.

In the name of Jesus Christ, your faithful witness, the first resurrected, and ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray...

Silent Prayer

Minister: Let us pray together... **Our Father in heaven...**

(Hymnal p. 11)

***Hymn:** #462

I Love to Tell the Story

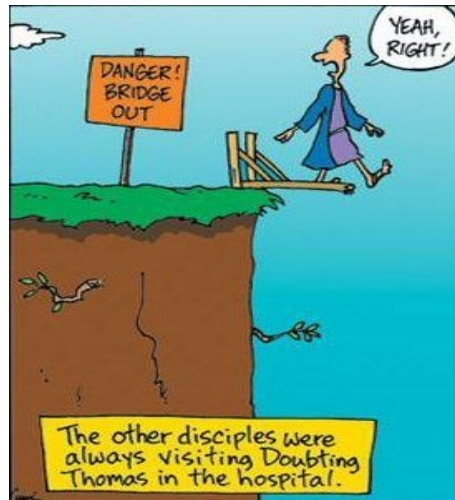
***Blessing**

Postlude

Go, Carry the Burden to Jesus

arr. Jini

Moment for Reflection:



Worship Assistants

Bill Martens- Greeter
Beth Malmquist- Worship Assistant
Chanmi Jeong- Accompanist
Kathy Manfredi- Videographer

John and Pam Holt- Head Ushers
Beth Malmquist- Scripture Reader
Pat Manfredi- Sound
Wendi Zea - Zoom Host

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022

9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022

3:30 pm Bible Study via Zoom

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary and via Zoom

11:00 am Faith Dialogues via Zoom

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours This Week
Monday - Thursday 10:00 am- 2:00 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit—please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the month of April, a **church photograph board** is being developed for the Narthex. Please either submit a 3x5" photo of yourself/your family to Sarah Merideth (place in mailbox in church office) or have Bob Luebbers take your photo following worship in the narthex. In addition, please provide your preferred pronouns. (If you don't see Bob on a given Sunday, please look for him the following week.) Thank you!

Camp Carew is celebrating their 70th anniversary with an open house Saturday, May 14, 1-4 pm. All are encouraged and welcome to attend.

Joys and Concerns

Please let the church office know if someone needs to be added to or removed from the lists below.

Remember to Pray for:

- Ukraine Situation
- Afghan families who have arrived in Carbondale
- Transgender community under attack legislatively
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Covid19 Pandemic patients and the ongoing vaccination efforts
- Social unrest and political polarization
- Those in the destructive path of natural disasters
- Those who are homeless, hungry, and in harm's way
- For the victims of mass shootings and hate crimes
- For those in shelters on the southern border
- For those who continue to be marginalized and underrepresented
- Service men and women

Each week we pray for one of the faith communities in the Carbondale Interfaith Council. This week, please pray for: **Gaia House Interfaith Center**
The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Mission**

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, you are the God who is and was and is to be.
Thank you that Christ has freed us to be a kingdom of priests
serving you and your world.

Give me a deeper sense, as I move through this day,
of what it means to say that you are my "Alpha and Omega," my A to Z. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Jesus, tonight I remember that your gospel gives me the power to forgive any and all,
through the gift of your Holy Spirit, and that includes forgiving myself.
Breathe your peace into me so that even if I pierced you today,
I can still see you coming to embrace me
with your freedom and love this night. Amen.

254 *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

1 That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.

2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.

3 From every weapon death can wield, your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.

#582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*
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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

John 19:20-31 (NT P 115)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (OT p. 1)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome.

And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

PCUSA A Brief Statement of Faith

3 We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good

and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still,

God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,

like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

#14 For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: [Refrain]

3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: [Refrain]

4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: [Refrain]

5 For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: [Refrain]

#606 Praise God from Who All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#432 I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]