

EASTER

A CELEBRATION OF THE
RESURRECTION

SUNDAY

APR
4

2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

WELCOME

Easter Service

April 4, 2021

Thank you for joining us for worship.

To decrease the risk of COVID for all gathered, please observe the following:

- Wear a mask
- Maintain social distance from other worshipers
- Place offering in plates in the narthex
- Child Care during worship is open for young children in Room 110/111 in Education Wing. If you need assistance in finding the room, please ask an usher.

****Those who are able, please stand***

PRELUDE

Fanfare and Proclamation
Davin Kyle, trumpet

WILLIAM BAY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God: Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

Many: **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Sin and death shall reign no more.

Many: **Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Let this place resound with joy.

Many: **Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN**

Risen Today and Joyful, Joyful!
Chancel Choir (virtual)
Chamber Ensemble with String Quartet

ARR. A. AND M. PODD

*Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!
Songs of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*Choir Only: Mortals, join the mighty chorus! Alleluia!
God's own love is reigning o'er us, Alleluia!
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;
Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*

The festival of the Resurrection of the Lord (or Easter Sunday) is the center of the Christian year. On this occasion the church joyfully proclaims the good news that is at the very heart of the gospel: that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Theologically speaking, the faith we claim and the life we live depend on the affirmation, celebration and proclamation of Christ's resurrection.

**Those who are able,
please stand*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit we have been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet we have not lived as Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of danger. Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, but do not recognize your presence. Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know you with confidence. Whenever we are tempted to fear death, give us courage to confess your Easter victory. Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil, reveal again to us your triumph over the destructive powers of oppression. Forgive us our sin and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

KYRIE *Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.* HOPSON
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the Good News! The Easter message is clear and sure: God raised Jesus from the dead. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Many: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*HYMN 581 *Glory Be To The Father* GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Before God's majesty and holiness we become painfully aware of our selfishness and disobedience. We repent of our sin and ask God's forgiveness. We cannot earn God's forgiveness by our repentance. Nor can we ever be worthy of God's mercy. It is only in the assurance of God's prior mercy given freely to the undeserving that we dare make our humble confession before God. Confession of sin therefore takes us back to our baptism. In the waters of Baptism, washed in the name of the triune God, we receive God's assurance of forgiveness and cleansing. Claiming the promises of God sealed in our baptism, we boldly confess our sin and accept forgiveness. We are confident that in our dying to sin and old destructive ways, the God of boundless grace raises us to new life.

First Corinthians offers a window on a congregation and preacher trying to sort out the real-life implications of the gospel. How should Christians live in a culture at odds with their confession of faith? What commitments and practices enable Christians to honor one another in the midst of differences of opinion? Paul reminds us that at the heart of all that we do and say is the Good News of Christ's Resurrection. This joyous Easter Day should color all that we do and say as people of faith.

**Those who are able,
please stand*

ANTHEM

See, What A Morning K. GETTY AND D. TOWNEND
Chamber Ensemble and String Quartet Arr. D. Williamson

*See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem.
Folded the grave clothes, tomb filled with light
As the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"*

*See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,
borne in pain, paid in sacrifice.
Fulfilled in Christ, the man, for he lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.*

*See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?"
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb.
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!*

*The voice that spans the years, speaking life
Stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
Will sound 'till He appears, for He lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.*

*One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.
Honor and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority!*

*And we are raised with Him, death is dead,
Love has won, Christ has conquered.
And we shall reign with Him, for He lives:
Christ is risen from the dead!*

SECOND LESSON

MARK 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Terror and Amazement"
The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger

Want to learn more about the Scripture used in worship this week? Listen to our podcast Rocket City Lift! Found on iTunes, Spotify, Sound Cloud, and Google Podcast.

**Those who are able,
please stand*

Refrain:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)*

*All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. (Refrain)*

*O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally. (Refrain)*

*So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory. (Refrain)*

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Your commitment to the Church and to living out this life of faith is an act of worship. You are invited to place your offering in the collection plates near the entrance.)

OFFERTORY

*And Can It Be? And Crown Him With Many Crowns
String Ensemble*

*DOXOLOGY 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*HYMN 246

Christ Is Alive

TRURO

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

In grateful response for the abundance of God's grace, we offer ourselves to be instruments of God's peace, love, and justice. As stewards we give from what God has given us, acknowledging that the world is not ours but God's. Our offering is the whole of our lives.

**Those who are able,
please stand*

*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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you you kept faith with us, your love remained steadfast. When we were slaves in Egypt, you broke the bonds of our oppression, brought us through the sea to freedom, and made covenant to be our God. By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the Word made flesh you lived among us, manifesting your glory. He died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name saying:

Many: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch, and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice, and was mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart, and met with violence and death. By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb, and at his command the gates of hell were opened. The one who was dead now lives. The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation, the Lamb upon the throne. The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.

We give you thanks that on the night of his arrest Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. We join together and proclaim:

**Those who are able,
please stand*

Many: **Great is the mystery called faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Nourished at this table, O God, may we know Christ's redemptive love and live a new life in him. Help us who recognize our Lord in the breaking of bread to see and serve him in all whose lives are broken. Give us who are fed at his hand, grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. We ask this all in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, offering together the Lord's Prayer, saying,

Many: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please open your communion bread and cup now. The minister will lead you in eating and drinking together.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we praise you that your glory has dawned on us, and brought us into this Day of Resurrection. We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son, and that he has conquered death, risen to rule over all powers of this earth. We praise you that he summons us into new life, to follow him with joy and gladness. By your Spirit, lift us from doubt and despair, and set our feet in Christ's holy way, that our lives may be signs of his life, and all we have may show forth his love. Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, forever and ever. Amen.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah
Chancel Choir -Virtual
String Ensemble

G. F. HANDEL

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sound the Trumpet
Devin Kyle, trumpet

WILLIAM BAY

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger,
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Brett Gudeman,
Associate Pastor

Dr. Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Dr. Lois K. Lee,
Pianist/Organist

Chancel Choir

Chamber Ensemble

Davin Kyle, trumpet

Veronika Johnson, Violin

Mary Peck, Violin II

Charles Hogue, Viola

Ariana Arcu, cello

Chelsea Owens, flute

Ushers:

Roy & Marilyn McCorkle,
Tom & Susie Conard, Bob
Frank Smith, Bo Lundy

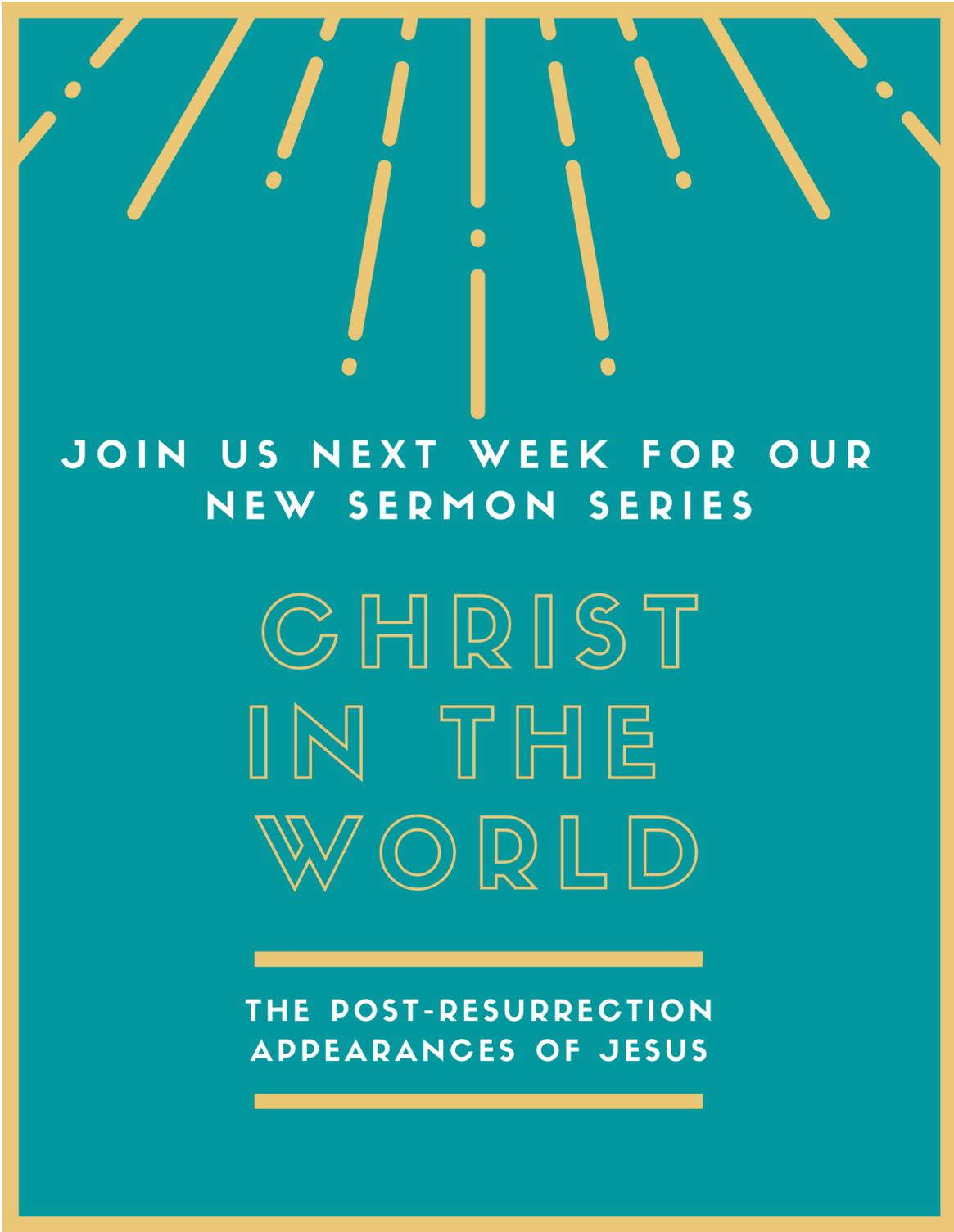
Video and Sound:

Mike Hyatt, Tom Stroud,
Brian Bulger, Jeff Hyatt,
David Young

Worship Resources Adapted From:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Series, the Book of Common Worship, and Enterthebible.org
CCLI 1345744 One License: A-722711

**Those who are able,
please stand*



JOIN US NEXT WEEK FOR OUR
NEW SERMON SERIES

CHRIST
IN THE
WORLD

THE POST-RESURRECTION
APPEARANCES OF JESUS



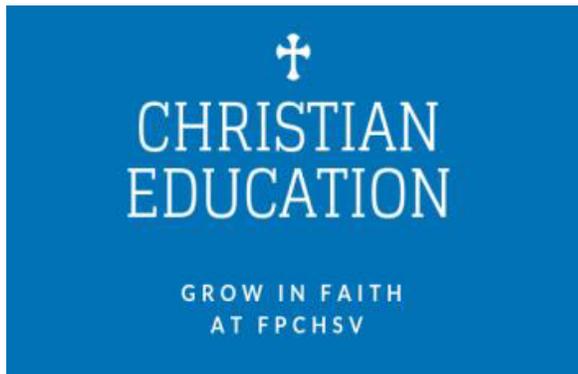
First Presbyterian is a Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

We welcome you as a participant in worship today. We pray that you will find this service meaningful. Worship is but one of the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church.

If you would like to receive our Weekly E-News, please send your name and email address to communications@fpchsv.org.

FLOWER GUILD HONORS AND MEMORIALS

The flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God.



May 9 is the Sunday we will be recognizing our High School, College, and Grad School graduates with a special blessing as they start a new chapter in their lives. Also we would like to list our graduates and include some information about them in the May First Word newsletter. Please contact Kathy Gillmore at dce@fpchsv.org to let her know.

Please note: Sunday School classes will not be available on Easter Sunday, April 4. Classes will resume the following week on April 11.

THIS WEEK AT FPCHSV

April 4-April 11

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday- Holy Communion

6:15 am Sunrise Worship Service GBH Garden

8:30 am Worship Service SAN (Child Care Available)

11:00 am Worship Service SAN (Child Care Available)

Monday, April 5, 2021

Church Office Closed

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting
Zoom

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Session Meeting FH & Zoom

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

7:00 am - 8:00 am Men's Bible Study FH & Zoom

9:00 am - 11:00 am Prepare Lunches for Village of Promise

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry LIB

6:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice CR

Thursday, April 8, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Prayer Group Zoom

Friday, April 9, 2021

9:00 am - 1:00 pm First Friends Preschool

Sunday, April 11, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service SAN

9:30 am - 10:30 am Godly Play Children's Sunday School Room 011 CE Basement

9:30 am - 10:30 am Feasting on the Word Zoom & FH

9:30 am - 10:30 am Charles Danner Seminar Zoom

9:30 am - 10:30 am Comrades Sunday School Room 106

9:30 am - 10:30 am Youth Sunday School Zoom & CER

9:30 am - 10:30 am Peepers Sunday School Room 110/111

11:00 am Worship Service SAN

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Connection GBH

Calendar Legend:

BR - Bell Room

CH - Carriage House (GBH)

CER - Christian Ed Resource upstairs

CR - Choir Room

FH - Fellowship Hall

GBH - Gideon Blackburn House

HR - Historical Room

JAH - John Allan Hall (GBH)

LIB - Library

SAN - Sanctuary

SMR - Stephen Ministry Room (GBH)

Green - Children's program

Yellow - Youth program

Red - Adult program

Blue - Music



Worship of the Living God is not confined to one place or time. We encourage you to take this bulletin home and use it to guide you in private moments of worship for the next week.

Discuss: What does Easter mean to you?

Read:

- Monday- John 14:1-14
- Tuesday- John 14:15-31
- Wednesday- John 15:1-11
- Thursday- John 15:12-27
- Friday- John 16:1-15
- Saturday- John 16:16-33

Pray: Offer a prayer of gratitude for Easter.

Read and Wonder

Read this week from your child's gift Bible at home:

- The Beginner's Bible: Jesus is Risen (page 453)
- Spark Story Bible: The Empty Tomb (page 482)
- Connect Bible: John 20:11-18 "Resurrection" (page 1243)

Wonder together:

- I wonder what part of this story was your favorite part?
- I wonder what was the most important part of this story?
- I wonder what part was about you or if you want to be a part of this story?

Presbyterian Women

"Continuing Mission During a Pandemic: An Update from AIR-Guatemala"

On April 12th at 10:00 am via Zoom, Presbyterian Elder and Huntsville native, Anne Motley Hallum, Founding President of AIR, Inc., will share photos and experiences about God's Grace and the courage and resilience of Mayan farmers in Guatemala in 2020. All Circles invited.



Mission of the Year- Backpack Ministry

Through the Food Bank of North Alabama, we have been assigned to serve the elementary-age children of The Academy of Academics and Arts (AAA) which is located on Sparkman Drive. Thousands of school-age children in north Alabama qualify for free or reduced-price meals at school. On Fridays, these programs ensure two-day supplemental meal kits are discreetly slipped into the backpacks of children at risk of hunger over the weekend. The kits include ready-to-eat foods such as milk, cereal, fruit cups, pasta and sauce and more. As a result, students arrive to school on Monday ready and able to learn without the painful distraction of hunger.

We will need one group a week to make food bags. The work will be done in a designated classroom on the second floor of the GBH, which is accessible by elevator. In addition to filling food packs, you may also serve the Backpack Ministry by:

- Donating specific foods from a provided list.
- Place food in the Food Pantry Box.
- Donate money to purchase food.
- Volunteer to deliver the food packs to AAA.
- Pray for AAA and the Back Pack Ministry

For more information please contact Karen Madison at karenmadison@comcast.net.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. For ways to donate, please visit fpchsv.org/missions.

PRAYER LIST

To add a prayer request, please visit our website

To remove a prayer request, please email communications@fpchsv.org

New prayer requests are in bold print

In case of a pastoral emergency, you may contact Dr. Bulger at 256-655-1818

Church Members:

LaRhue and Carroll Johnson

Nan McBride

Morris Hammer

Ginny Bouldin

Barbara (Bonny) Morris

Lou Horn

Cay Lambert

Mary Lou Danner

Friends and Family:

Kristi Herbert - friend of Sharon Hudson

Jeff Mazur - friend of Tom and Sharon Hudson

Friend of Lisa Stephens

Family of Jerry Rufe - friend of Bruce and Janis Williams

Kevin McCarley- brother of Roy McCorkle

Lively Family

Carol Salter- friend of Tish Hammer

Kriste Hammer- niece of Morris Hammer

Sandy and Gene Kagan - daughter and son-in-law of Betty

Dunaway

Shirley Forbes

Josh Saliba - nephew of Donna and John Basore

Marcos Servin - brother-in-law of Patricia Hacker

Calvin Ronald Dahl - nephew of Peggy Galloway

Caitlin Greiner - granddaughter of Cay Lambert

Jack Bolton - grandson of Bill and Miriam Bolton

John and Maryetta Bitzer - friends of Peggy and Dave

Galloway

Family of Pat Golley

Kathy Winfree - sister of Bill Bolton

Pat Richeson - friend of Glen Adams

Stella Fair - sister of David Galloway

Beverlee Leo - mother of Lori Smith

Scott Sedlitz - stepson of Annewhite Fuller

Leigh Vincent - friend of Linda and Woodward Howard

Paige Olmo -daughter of Paula Weider

Sean Larkin - friend of Linda Howard and Bryce Connor

Dylan Greiner - son of Cay Lambert

Dale Brown - brother of Doug Brown

Nell Pike - mother of Charlie Pike

Rachel Beard - friend of Tam Bevel

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Dolly Shuey (WBC @ Magnolia Trace)

Jean Walker (Regency)

The Church:

The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger and her family

The Rev. Brett Gudeman and his family

First Presbyterian Church, the Session, the Board of Deacons, the North Alabama Presbytery, and for all the church staff

NAP seminary student Joe Lundy (First, Huntsville).

Military & International:

All those serving in the armed forces; particularly ENS

Connor Howard, U.S. Navy Flight School

Our Nation: President Biden, Vice President Harris, and all who govern our nation

First Presbyterian Missions & Ministries:

Appalachia Service Project (ASP)

Good Samaritans

International Missionary Fellowship (HaitiHospital.org)

The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center

The Presbyterian Home for Children

Second Mile Preschool

The CUP program

Camp Maranatha

Mission Aviation Fellowship

Other Prayers:

Let us pray for all those struggling with health and economic hardship during this pandemic. Let us also pray for communities as they express the deep hurt they feel, as well as for safety and peace for all.

