



8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The banners in the Chapel and Sanctuary represent our international partnerships with the Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kenya and the Kilambe communities in Nicaragua. An identical banner is in their worship spaces. Learn more about our partnerships at our website or use this QR code.



Use this QR code to fill out the online friendship pad.



Prelude Fanfare Celebration Michael Mazzatenta

\* Easter Greeting

One: Christ is risen.

**All: He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

\* Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen.

**All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

One: Today we know hope and today we know life.

**All: Today we know the sound of alleluias.**

One: Today we know that death does not have the last word.

**All: Today we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.**

One: It is Easter. May hope find you. And may you know, deep in your bones, that today is a new day.

**All: Alleluia! Amen.**

\* Hymn 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

Prayer of Confession

*Our opening prayer includes a call and response. When the liturgist says, "Hallowed be your name," please respond, "Hallowed be your name." We will begin with those words.*

One: Hallowed be your name.

**All: Hallowed be your name.**

One: Lord God, early in the morning...

... your death and resurrection, your interest in us, so we pray.

**All: Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired; new love where we have turned hard-hearted; forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves.**

*Please continue your prayers in silence.*

While it is common to share the peace of Christ with a handshake, please don't ever be offended if someone prefers a wave or some other sign. There are many reasons, including important health reasons, why someone might not shake hands. FYI- did you know the early Christians exchanged the kiss of peace?

There is a great deal of nature imagery in the Bible, and thus in our music and other art in the Christian tradition. You may notice in our reading from Acts that the cross is called a tree, one of three places in the New Testament where it is referred to in that way. Some older artworks call the cross the Rood Tree, rood meaning rod.

The nature imagery continues in the choir's anthem. Listen for bird sounds from the organ while the choir sings phrases that mimic the resurrection.

#### Declaration of Love

One: To all and to each, on his community and on his friends, where regret is real, Jesus pronounced his pardon and grants us the strength and gift to begin again. Thanks be to God!

**All: Amen.**

#### Response of Praise, Hymn 240

ALLELUIA NO.1

**All Sing:**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.**

#### \* Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

#### Welcome and Announcements

### HEARING THE WORD

#### Prayer for Illumination

**All: O Holy One, as storytellers we shape your unfolding story. As passionate people we share your passion for justice. As bearers of your image, we embody your life in the world. Humble us to listen to forgotten stories. Empower us with boldness when we are afraid. Help us to hear and do your Word. Amen.**

#### Time with Children

COME INTO HIS PRESENCE

**All Sing:**

**Praise the risen Savior saying: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

#### Scripture

Matthew 28: 1-15

*After each reading:*

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### Musical Offering

Now the Green Blade Rises

Bob Chilcott

*Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green. In the grave they laid him, Love who men had slain, Thinking that never he would awake again, Laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain, Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Thy touch can call us back to life again, Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

Thank you to everyone who made a gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering last week. Your contributions will assist organizations like Presbyterian Disaster Assistance respond to local, national and international events. In fact, OGHS money helped prepare the way for the 16 DCPC members who will be helping with ongoing Hurricane Helene relief work in late April.

Thank you for making a gift today. You can use the QR code below, mail a check to the church office or place an offering in the plate as it is passed. Last year, your gifts, helped build bomb shelters for the children of the Mar Elias schools in Israel. Mar Elias was founded and is run by Palestinian Christians and educates children of multiple faiths in the Galilee region.



Scripture

Acts 10: 34-43

Sermon

Empty Trees, Empty Tombs

Peter Henry

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* Hymn 250                      In the Bulb There Is a Flower                      PROMISE  
*The Tower Ringers will be playing "singing bells" as an introduction to this hymn. Please remain seated until the choir stands to start the hymn. At that time, please stand and join in singing the hymn.*

\* Affirmation of Faith

One: In life, in death, in life beyond death,

**All: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

One: Over powers and principalities, over all who determine, control, govern, or finance the affairs of humankind,

**All: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

One: Of the poor, of the broken, of the sinned against and the sinner,

**All: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

One: Above the Church, beyond our most excellent theologies and beautiful music, and in the quiet corners of our hearts,

**All: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

**All: 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.**

Offertory

Thine is the Glory  
*For text, see hymn 238.*

Lloyd Larson

\* Doxology, No. 609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**All Sing:**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known:**

**Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

\* Prayer of Dedication

The tradition of standing during the Hallelujah Chorus, attributed to King George II standing during one of the first performances, is most likely apocryphal and didn't happen. While you are welcome to stand, the piece is long. If sitting is necessary for you, do not hesitate to do so even if people around you are standing. It is just as good sitting!

Do you know how many times they sing "hallelujah" in Hande's famous Hallelujah Chorus? See if you can count. FYI- hallelujah is just a different way of spelling alleluia. And what does alleluia mean? "God be praised."

Use this QR Code to go to a document which contains all of our current Sign-Up Links for things like worship greeting and ushering, event registrations, service opportunities and more.



## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

- \* Hymn 248                      Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!                      HYMN TO JOY  
*Worshippers at the 11:00 service who would like to sing the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to make their way to the choir loft during this hymn. Choir members have scores and will hand them to you as they guide you where to go.*
  
- \* Benediction  
    One: May the Lord of life walk this journey of faith with us and through us.  
    **All: Lead us, Lord, lead on.**  
    One: May the Lord of life lead us to risk, to grow, and to tread the path  
        Jesus has opened for us.  
    **All: Lead us, Lord, lead on.**  
    One: Let us rejoice that every place is God's place and in every place God  
        can bring life.  
    **All: In the name of the Risen One. Amen.**
  
- \* Easter Farewell  
    One: Christ is risen.  
    **All: He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**
  
- \* (11:00) Benediction Response    "Hallelujah"    G.F. Handel
  
- \* Postlude                              Toccata from Symphony No. 5                      Charles-Marie Widor

The flower garlands in our windows are a culmination of our Advent and Lenten themes, “The Trees of Advent” and “Under the Lenten Trees.” Throughout Lent, in particular, we had live trees with special decorations in our sanctuary and chapel. One of those trees is at the back of the chancel. For the last few weeks, the children of our DCPC Weekday Preschool have been making colorful leaves that are the garlands in the windows. Some of them have wonderful life-affirming messages from the children, perfect for Easter. Thank you to our students and teachers and to Genny Bosak for her artistic touches with our Lenten theme.

## Worship Leaders

Preacher – Peter Henry

Liturgists – (8:30) John Ryan and Genny Bosak; (11:00) Robert Alexander and David Gilpin

Musicians – David Brinson, Sarah Lynch, Chancel and Geneva Choir, Tower Ringers, DCPC Brass, and Diana Loomer

Greeters – Marjorie Burris, Anne Crawford, Kevin Morris and Margo Alfieri, Mary Muchane, Ann Pardue, Al Smith

Ushers – (8:30) Becky and Dave Swartz; (11:00) Ann Alves, Audri Baker, John Byer, Matt Merrell and Holt Hathaway, Fritz and Christy Kramer  
Joel Ritchie, Tim Stroud

Technology – (8:30) JD Densmore, Ben Slay; (11:00) JD Densmore, Terry Pardue, Ben Slay

Today’s liturgy- Parts of today’s liturgy come from *Eggs and Ashes*, by Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill and also from *Stages on the Way* from the Wild Goose Worship Group.

The Bibles in our pews are the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), originally produced in 1989 as an update to the 1952 Revised Standard Version (RSV). The pastors and readers are now using the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue) in worship. Published in 2021, the NRSVue incorporates new manuscript discoveries, particularly for the Hebrew Bible, and the latest insights from biblical scholarship. It features clearer, more inclusive language and greater cultural sensitivity compared to prior versions, with over 12,000 substantive revisions to the original NRSV. You can learn more about the NRSVue with this QR code.



# DAVIDSON COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

[www.dcpcc.org](http://www.dcpcc.org)



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**Davidson College Presbyterian Church is part of the PC(USA).** As a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, we are a welcoming, affirming, and inclusive faith community where all are one in Christ. We are a Matthew 25, Earth Care and Stephen Ministry congregation on the corner of campus and community. Our congregation celebrates partnerships in Christ with the Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kikuyu, Kenya; and the Kilambe communities in Jinotega, Nicaragua; and Blythe Elementary School in Huntersville, NC. Together we seek to grow in witnessing to Christ in a complex world and to learn more about how to respond as disciples to the great needs of the world. Our sanctuary stands on lands once occupied by the indigenous communities of the Catawba people and our first worship space was built with bricks made by enslaved people. We remember them to God as we honor and recognize them in worship.

**Childcare & Children's Sunday School**  
Children are invited to Sunday School, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Come hear Bible stories, make friends, have fun, and learn! Classes for infants through Preschool are on the lower level. Children in TK/Kindergarten through fifth grade are on the upper level. Please check in at a kiosk prior to drop off to receive name tags.  
Childcare for ages 0-6 is available in room 14 weekly from 8:15 am – 12:15 p.m. A comfort room is available in Room 13 for nursing, napping babies with a live stream of worship.

<p><b>Hearing Assistance Devices</b> Our devices are available in baskets at each entrance to the sanctuary. Each receiver pack has one of two cords: a simple in-ear piece and a T-Coil neck loop. If you need assistance, please see a worship leader.</p>	<p><b>Pew Cushions</b> A limited number of pew cushions are available for worshipers with back issues in the narthex.</p>	<p><b>Narthex Bathrooms</b> The bathrooms in the narthex (the entry way from the campus, at the back of the sanctuary) are all-gender bathrooms.</p>
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