SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 16, 2023
11:00 AM

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE — Steven Phillips

MOMENT FOR DISCPLESHIP — Jinny & Ron Miller
Invest in Children

INTROIT — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing!* — Spanish Hymn/ arr. Pethel
(The Chancel Choir)

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** — Sue Hargis Spigel

The good news resounds:
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
We celebrate the God who is our refuge.
In God's presence there is gladness and rest.
God is always before us;
we shall not be shaken.

* **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.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

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.

(continued next page)

* *Those who are able are invited to stand.*

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.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION R. C. Smith

**God, you have made known to us the ways of life.
Yet, too often, we put other things above you
and turn away from the ways of life
and toward the ways of death.
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,
that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.**

(silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*** SONG OF JOY 583** *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* GLORIA (Taize)

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria! Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God, glory to God,
Glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God,
Alleluia, alleluia!

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING John 20:19-29 Page 989

SERMON *Generations of Faith and Doubt* R. C. Smith

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from the *Confession of 1967*
Sue Hargis Spigel

**New life in Christ takes shape in a community
in which people know that God loves and
accepts them in spite of what they are.
They therefore accept themselves and love others,
knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand,
except God's grace.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING Steven Phillips

ANTHEM *Hymn of Promise* Natalie Sleeth
(Carrie Mills, Matt Jarvis, Steven Phillips)

In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Steven Phillips

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.

*** HYMN 265** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

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People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** R. C. Smith

POSTLUDE Improvisation on Spanish Hymn Steven Phillips

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2050 Oak Street • Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 955-8119 • www.firstpressarasota.org