

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship



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Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew,  
"Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). --John 20:16

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### First Presbyterian Church

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[www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net)

**MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT:** REV. DR. SANDRA R. TICE

**MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT:** REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

**COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTOR:** DR. WENDY L. LAMB

**PASTOR EMERITUS:** REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST; AMY GANO, BELLS

# Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

## We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website [www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net), along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are **welcome** in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

**OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

# Morning Worship†

Lector: Mimi Lange

## REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

We shed tears of sorrow, gladness, contrition, and—closest to awe—of our experience of grace, the feeling of Divine provenance of the kindness and goodness of life. --Dacher Keltner, *Awe*

## GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE** *A Day Dawns* William Zeitler  
*Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.*

**INTROIT** *With a Voice of Singing*<sup>1</sup> Martin Shaw  
With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleleuia.

### \*EASTER ACCLAMATION

This is the good news—  
The grave is empty, Christ is risen.

✘ Alleluia! Amen!

This is the Good News- the light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never put it out.

✘ Alleluia! Amen!

This is the Good News – Our doubts and our fears  
are no barrier to Christ, let us worship God!

✘ Alleluia! Amen!

**\*HYMN 267** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

### \*PRAYER of ADORATION<sup>2</sup>

✘ Jesus Christ, you meet us, and we are in awe!  
In spite of our despair,  
In the midst of our tears,  
you come to us and offer us peace.  
Help us this day, to hear your voice,

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† The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

\* **Stand if you are able**    ✘ **The congregation will read.**

<sup>1</sup> ©1962 Shawnee Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

<sup>2</sup> Thom M. Shuman, *Fire and Bread*

to see your face,  
to wonder at your sudden appearance  
and to recognize your love  
as surely as Mary did. Amen.

*(We stand and sing Alleluia)*

**\*ALLELUIA**

*William Zeitler*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le al - le - lu - ia!

Chord symbols: Em, B, Em, D, G, D, 1. F:m, B, 2. F:m, B:m, F:m

**TIME with the CHILDREN**

*[Children are always welcome in worship. After the time with Children, we invite our children ages 4 to 11 to go to KidSpace in Room 11. Parents, please pick your children up immediately following worship. Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]*

**ANTHEM**

*Grace<sup>3</sup>*

*arr. Mark Hayes*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound; that saved a wretch, a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found; I once was blind, but now I see. 'Twas  
grace that taught my heart to fear, and that same grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour when I first believed! Through  
many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already safely come; This grace hath  
brought me safe thus far, and surely grace will lead me home, I shall go home.  
When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, the  
glorious sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise than since the day we'd  
first begun.

**SCRIPTURE** Psalm 19:1-6  
John 20:1, 11-18

**SERMON**

*Dr. Sandy Tice*

**\*REFRAIN 635**

*Laudate Dominum<sup>4</sup>*

*Jacques Berthier*

✘ **Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum omnes gentes, alleluia!**  
**Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum omnes gentes, alleluia!**

<sup>3</sup> Text: Adapted from John Newton. Music: Early American melody, arr. Mark Hayes. ©1993 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

<sup>4</sup> ©1978, 1980, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A706254.

## THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

*(We offer our tithes and gifts to be part of God's purposes in the world, and we invite you to take part. You may bring forward your gifts and place them in the plate. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)*

### OFFERTORY

#### \*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDDTH

- ✘ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye Heavenly Host:  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### PRAYERS of the PEOPLE, OUR LORD'S PRAYER

- ✘ 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

*Song for Love*<sup>5</sup>

AR HYD Y NOS

- ✘ Now we sing to praise love's blessing  
all through our lives,  
laughter, joy, surprise confessing,  
all through our lives.  
Love that dreamed a new creation,  
love that dared an incarnation,  
love that offers transformation  
all through our lives.

How our wounds ache for love's healing  
all through our days.

How our world needs love's revealing,  
in all its ways.

Fearful hearts suspect the stranger,  
hardened nations arm for danger,  
love lives on, the powerful changer,  
all through our days.

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<sup>5</sup> Text: Anna Briggs ©2003 Iona Community/WGRG, GIA Publications, agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

Love's the grace that makes us caring  
all through our lives,  
urges us to warmth and sharing  
all through our lives,  
speaks in us, oppression naming,  
strives in us, injustice shaming,  
lives in us, true peace proclaiming  
all through our lives.

In God's faithful love we flourish  
All through our lives,  
Known and loved, each other nourish  
All through our lives.  
Though the world's demands are pressing,  
What life brings is left to guessing,  
Still we sing to praise love's blessing  
All through our lives.

**\*MOMENT for REFLECTION**

**\*CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE**      *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* <sup>6</sup>      Peter C. Lutkin  
The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift His countenance upon you;  
and give you peace, and give you peace, the Lord make His face to shine upon  
you, and be gracious unto you, be gracious, the Lord be gracious, gracious  
unto you. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**                              *Improvisation*                              William Zeitler  
*(For health reasons we are not greeting at the door)*

**GREETERS:** Donna Feit, Doris Nord

**USHERS:** Margaret Doane, *Lead Usher*

Rick Rodriguez, Jim Siegmund, *Security Ushers*

**SOUND ENGINEERS:** Dan Direen, Brent Nord

**LIVESTREAM ENGINEER:** James Welte

**CAMERA OPERATORS:** Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**

**George Biddlecombe, Noé Falconi, Larry Marona**  
*Elders:* **Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños**  
*Deacons:* **Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Steve Smith**

**This Weeks' Birthdays**

***Apr 30***      **Tom Rennard**

***May 1***        **Lily Bolaños**

**Aidan Morris**

***May 4***        **Erika Mantei**

***May 6***        **Kaiyah Dubois**

**Katie Willis**

***More news and announcements are available*** in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

## ***The Music Box***

Once upon a time there was a kingdom, with a great king and queen. They had a beautiful newborn daughter whom they named Leona. The king and queen were profoundly happy, and loved their daughter beyond words.

One day the queen said to the king, “Leona must some day rule in our place. But if she grows up in court, knowing only ease and everyone fawning on her day and night, how will she learn the wisdom she will need to be a wise queen?” The king, having no answer, consulted his mage, Merlin.

“I have a proposal,” said Merlin. “Allow me to raise Leona as an ordinary subject of your kingdom, with no knowledge of her royal birth. I will keep her perfectly safe with my magical powers, but she will also learn the ways of the world.”

And the king and queen agreed. So Merlin took the infant Leona to a shepherd cottage on the edge of the kingdom. And raised her to be a shepherdess, tending the sheep, caring for their injuries, easing their lamb-births, and being present to their deaths — sharing with them the bright, hot days of summer and the dark, bitter cold nights of winter. And she learned to make cloth from their wool, and cheese from their milk. And Merlin taught her the ways of nature, as well as the ways of books and human knowledge.

In due time Leona grew into a fine young woman, wise from all she had learned.

The king and queen were of course very anxious for her to return to the castle. So one day they surprised Merlin and Leona at their cottage, arriving in their splendid gold carriage with their entourage of knights and trumpeters. Leona had never seen anything like this, and terrified, hid herself in the forest.

“What is to be done now?” cried the queen.

“We must introduce her to her royal station gradually, so as not to overwhelm her,” said Merlin.

And the king and queen agreed. Merlin informed Leona: “The king and queen wish you to be a scullery maid in the castle, and as a subject of their realm you must of course obey.” And so she did. At first being in the castle at all was terrifying. But after all, she was only a scullery maid, safely hidden in a tiny room for washing dishes down in the bowels of the castle. In due time she became accustomed to her new station, and of course executed her tasks with distinction.

“Now the king and queen wish you to be a cleaning maid.” Ah, this was a new challenge for Leona! For now she wasn’t hidden away, but in the great halls and rooms of the castle, dusting, sweeping and polishing. And oh how she shuddered, and bowed oh so low, when noblemen and ladies would pass by. But they paid her no notice. In time she became accustomed to their



presence, and the splendor of the halls and rooms of the castle, and although she still bowed low when nobility passed by her, she no longer shuddered. And, as always, she executed her tasks with distinction.

“Now the king and queen wish you to be one of the queen’s ladies in waiting.” Ah, yet another challenge for Leona! For now she was in the presence of the queen herself! In her private rooms! Helping her dress, attending to her needs. And she was in the presence of the king too! All of which she found quite terrifying.

But in time she became accustomed to her new state. And although she of course remained profoundly respectful of their majesties the king and queen, gradually her terror of them passed and she came to love them as the wise and compassionate monarchs they truly were.

One day the queen summoned her. “Please sit here, beside me, Leona. I have a story to tell you.” And the queen told Leona how she had been born their child, and how they had decided to have Merlin raise her as a subject of their realm so she would learn wisdom, and how by degrees they had reacquainted her with the life of royalty, starting as a lowly scullery maid and finally as a lady in waiting.

Leona’s head was spinning! “How can this possibly be?! Begging your pardon, your majesty, I can’t bring myself to believe this!”

“Ah, my beautiful daughter, I have proof. You were born with a birthmark over your heart — I’m sure you know it well. Look, you will see that I have the same birthmark over my own.” Leona looked, and indeed there it was — over the queen’s own heart — a birthmark exactly like her own. “You are truly flesh of my flesh, my own beloved daughter. Come, my sweet child, take your rightful place beside me as Princess of the Realm.”

And, of course, Leona did as the queen wished, with quaking knees and tears in her eyes. But in time she came to accept her new station, and to appreciate the wisdom of her royal parents, and to love them even more — if that were possible!

And in due time she did indeed become Queen of the Realm, and ruled her subjects with a compassion and wisdom that could only come from someone who had lived as the lowliest of her own subjects.)

*--William Zeitler*