

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



California Quail, Photo by Becky Matsubara (Creative Commons License 4.0)

**They asked, and he brought quails,
and gave them food from heaven in abundance.**

--Psalm 105:40

First Presbyterian Church

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COMMISSIONED PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

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

MINISTRY OF VISITATION: LAURIE STAFFORD

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

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST;

AMY GANO, BELLS

PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

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, 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 5th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Dotti Garcia

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

I don't think the story of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, learning to know God—is merely an item of biblical history. These are stories that help us understand what our lives are like with God. We still wander, we doubt, we wonder if it has been foolish to follow God, because we often find ourselves in the desert. The quail in the Bible are both a sign of God's extravagant care and a sign that the Israelites' desires need transforming. We are not exempt from the desert wanderings—but how else would we be transformed?

Debbie Blue, *Consider the Birds*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Easter Prelude

Charles Callahan

Susan Addington, Flute

Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

INTROIT

*From the Rising of the Sun*¹

Eric H. Thiman

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the Lord's name be praised, the Lord's name be praised.

*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!

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

* **Stand if you are able** ✠ **The congregation will read.**

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HYMN 15**All Creatures of Our God and King***

LAS UNS ERFREUEN

*Verses 1-3, 6****PRAYER of ADORATION²**

*(We remain standing in body or spirit for the Prayer of Adoration.
You may always be seated as you wish.)*

- ✘ **Almighty and ever present God,**
you uphold heaven and earth and all creatures.
All things come from your generous hand:
You send the nourishing rain, the refreshing wind,
the warming sun, the blustering snow.
You make buds appear, flowers bloom,
fruit grow, and harvests mature.
Through each day of our lives,
whether in sickness or health,
prosperity or poverty, joy or sorrow,
you are in control.
Help us to be patient when things go against us,
thankful when things go well,
and always confident that nothing
could ever separate us from your love.
For your unending faithfulness, we thank and praise you. To you
be glory, now and forever. Amen.

*(We stand and sing Alleluia)****ALLELUIA***William Zeitler*

The Alleluia is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the melody with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -' and chord symbols Em, B, Em, D. The second staff contains the second line of the melody with lyrics 'lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le al - le - lu - ia!' and chord symbols G, D, 1. Em, B, 2. Em Bm, Em. The piece ends with a double bar line.

TIME with the CHILDREN

*[After Time with the Children, our children pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade are encouraged to go to Room 12 for KidSpace. Parents, please pick up your children from Room 12 immediately following worship.
Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]*

² *Worship Sourcebook*

ANTHEM

*The Gift of Love*³

Hal H. Hopson

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, And have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, But not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin. Come, spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship and are freed.

SCRIPTURE Exodus 16:11-13
Psalm 105:40

Old Testament, p. 63
Old Testament, p. 557

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Quail

Pastor Wendy Lamb

HYMN 18

Hallelujah!

NYANYIKANLAH NYANYIAN BARU

Sing Praise to Your Creator

(I invite you to consider the words as we sing this—perhaps—new-to-us hymn. You may remain seated as we sing in response to the word.)

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 HUNDREDTH

✠ 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 and 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.

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***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE** ***The Lord Bless You and Keep You *Peter C. Lutkin*

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift His countenance upon you; 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

GREETERS: Jeanne Clark, Jeoff Molcan

USHERS: Brad Smith, *Lead Usher*

Mark Adelson, Chris Thomas, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Debora Holk, Ron & Ruby Kraft

***Elders:** Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños*

***Deacons:** Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda*

This Weeks' Celebrations

Apr 24 Harlan Leonard Wright

Apr 27 Jonah Roy Morales

A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following worship on **Sunday, April 28th**, for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee. Please plan to attend.

Our Mission Assessment Team has completed the **Mission Action Plan**, a necessary first step toward calling a new pastor, and the Plan has been approved by the Session and the Presbytery. You can see it on our website: <https://fpcsb.net/mission-assessment>

Music Box

Bankei Yotaku (1622-1693) was one of the most renowned Japanese Zen Masters. His father was a Confucian scholar and a samurai who turned to the practice of medicine. In school, Bankei studied the usual Confucian classics, which confused him greatly. So he seized most every chance to question others on their knowledge. He would implore Confucian and Buddhist scholars and attend various religious gatherings in search of answers. All of this, however, proved futile. He became so distraught in his need to find answers that school was no longer a priority, and in 1633 he was kicked out of his family home. A family friend, Yūkan Nakahori, built a small hut for him behind his house.

Only 25 years old, he became so sick from his austere lifestyle that he was coughing up blood. In hindsight, he realized his suffering had been needless, that the Buddha mind, the 'Unborn Mind' — the mind we had before we were born, before we adopted all the labels with which we label ourselves — this mind he had been looking for with so much intensity had been with him all along. And it was an inextricable and fundamental part of him.

Bankei became the most popular Buddhist preacher of his era. People trekked from every corner of Japan to hear his talks, and the overflow audiences of thousands had to be accommodated in separate shifts. He was keen to popularize Zen and was happy for his students to work 'in the real world' instead of leading a monastic life.

During one of Bankei's classes, a student was caught stealing. The problem was presented to the Japanese master, and those who caught him asked that he be expelled. Instead, Bankei ignored the student's misdeed.

A few days later, the student was caught stealing again, and Bankei again ignored the problem. This infuriated the other students. They signed a petition demanding that the thief be expelled.

When Bankei read the petition, he summoned all his students.

"You are wise," he told them. "You know what is right and what is wrong. You can go elsewhere to study if you want, but this poor brother of ours does not even know what is good and what is evil. Who will teach him if I don't? I'm going to keep him here, even if there's no one left but him."

Tears began to flow down the face of the student who stole. His desire to steal was gone.

-- William Zeidler



The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough, Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis, and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez, Katie Smith, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda

In this time of change for our congregation, a Mission Action Plan has been completed by our Mission Assessment Team:

Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Nancy Horstmann, Marilyn Kraft, Jim Morris, Brent Nord, Irene Sandoval Suverkrup

We will be forming our Pastor Nominating Committee in the next few weeks.