



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

APRIL 1, 2018

EASTER DAY IS THE CENTRAL CELEBRATION of the Christian year, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The traditional greeting among Christians is “Christ is risen!” with the response, “He is risen indeed!”

✦ Please rise in body or in spirit.

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Risen in quiet and mysterious darkness before the chorus of the dawn. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Risen with glory and grace and authority beyond measure. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed.

Risen to prove that violence is no solution; to offer us peace and life in all its fullness.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed.

The last laugh is God’s laugh: for freedom comes beyond the cross, peace comes beyond the violence, friendship comes beyond the betrayal; life comes beyond the crushing of life. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed.

✦ HYMN 232 - *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

OPENING PRAYER

Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty; you gave birth to all that we know. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a newborn child crying in a manger announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: You shouldered and suffered the cross. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and executed you. Hallowed be your name.

Hallowed be your name.

This morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us, and your redemption of all creation!

Hallowed be God’s name, now and forever.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE - Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Alleluia



Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

✦ THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE - John 20:1-18

EASTER MEDITATION

✦ HYMN 243 – Be Not Afraid (sung three times)

BE NOT AFRAID

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Hymn 248, vs. 2-3 - Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion by Intinction

Prayer

✦ HYMN 246 - Christ is Alive!

TRURO

✦ EASTER AFFIRMATION

This is the Good News -- The grave is empty, Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

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

Hallelujah!

This is the Good news -- Once we were no people, now we are God’s people.

Hallelujah!

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

An offering basket is located near the communion table.

Service excerpts from *Eggs & Ashes*. The Opening Prayer is from *The Worship Sourcebook*.

Worship Leaders: Heather Shortlidge, Bill Hathaway, Bob Muckenfuss;

Communion Servers: Terri Borges, Bryan Jennings.



William L. Hathaway, Pastor / Heather G. Shortlidge, Associate Pastor

Melissa H. Good, Family Ministry Director / Robert W. Muckenfuss, Music Director & Organist

James G. Kirk and Richard Jones, Parish Associates

Covenant Church with the Haiti Reforestation Partnership

Partner with Evangelical Church of the Czech Brethren, Czech Republic

National Naval Memorial of the PC(USA) / Earth Care Congregation of the PC(USA)

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