

First Presbyterian Church

Libertyville, Illinois

Easter Sunday Worship

March 31, 2024



David Jones 'The Resurrection', 1924

*Spring bursts to-day, For Christ is risen and all the earth's at play.
Flash forth, thou Sun, The rain is over and gone, its work is done.*

~ Christina Rossetti

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

The Order of Worship
Easter Sunday ~ March 31, 2024
9 & 11 AM
THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

North Shore Brass

♦ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Brian Paulson

Leader: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

♦ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today***

EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. Kimberly Mendoza

**Mighty God, by your power Christ is raised from death to rule this world in love.
We confess that we have not believed in him, but fall into doubt and fear.
Gladness has no home in our hearts, and gratitude is slight. Forgive our dread of dying,
our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ,
who was dead but lives, and will put down every power to hurt or destroy, when your
promised kingdom comes.**

(Silence for personal confession)

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy on us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

♦ **THE EASTER RESPONSE HYMN #233 *The Day of Resurrection!* (vv. 1 & 3)** LANCASHIRE

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad, the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of
victory. Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin; the round world keep high triumph and
all that is therein. Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has
risen, our joy that has no end.

♦ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

On this day of resurrection, offer peace to your neighbor and respond with the traditional Easter greeting:

"Christ is Risen. Christ is Risen indeed!"

EASTER GREETINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Amy Heinrich

**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.**

◆ **EASTER HYMN #245**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

LLANFAIR

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!
Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory O grave? Alleluia!
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ triumphant now, Alleluia!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING

Psalm 118:1-6, 14-24

ANTHEM

Awake, Arise

Eric Lane Barnes

Chancel Choir and Brass - David H. Edelfelt, director

THE SECOND READING

John 20:1-18

◆ **GATHERING SONG - HYMN #240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (refrain & v. 1)** ALLELUIA
NO. 1

*As the congregation stands to sing, children are invited to gather in front of the font
for a time of learning during our intergenerational worship.*

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

◆ **SONG OF BLESSING - HYMN #240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (refrain & v. 2)** ALLELUIA
NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

(Children return to seats)

SERMON

Discover Life!

Dr. Paulson

THE RESPONSE

◆ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH IN SONG - HYMN #243 *Be Not Afraid*** TAIZE COMMUNITY

(Sung first time by choir only; 2nd and 3rd time with the congregation)

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

THE OFFERING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Let us offer our lives and the gifts of our lives in gratitude unto God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen
Chancel Choir

William Mathias

◆ **RESPONSE OF PRAISE - HYMN #240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (v. 4)*** ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.
Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

◆ **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND DEDICATION**

THE SENDING

◆ **HYMN #242**
FREUDE

Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded

IN DIR IST

Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread!
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead!

Sing of the sun from darkness appearing; sing of the seed from barren earth greening;
sing of creation, alleluia! Sing of the stream of Jesus' side flowing;
sing of the saints in water made holy; sing of salvation, alleluia!

Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread!
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead!

Sing now of mourning turned into dancing; sing now the mystery, hope of our glory;
Sing with thanksgiving, alleluia! Sing now of fasting turned into feasting; sing the Lord's favor
lasting forever; sing, all things living, alleluia!

◆ **THE BLESSING**

◆ **SENDING FORTH**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

POSTLUDE

◆ Those who are able may stand

Brass Quintet: William Dick, Adam Gohr - trumpet; Kendra Gohr - trombone (euphonium);
Sharon Jones - French horn; Rich Armandi - tuba

Cross Bearer: 9:00
Kelly Meyer
Banner Carrier: Larry Slight

11:00
Don Pochron
Bill Parker

The church office & building will be closed Easter Monday, April 1, 2024